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Hongkong Telegraph.

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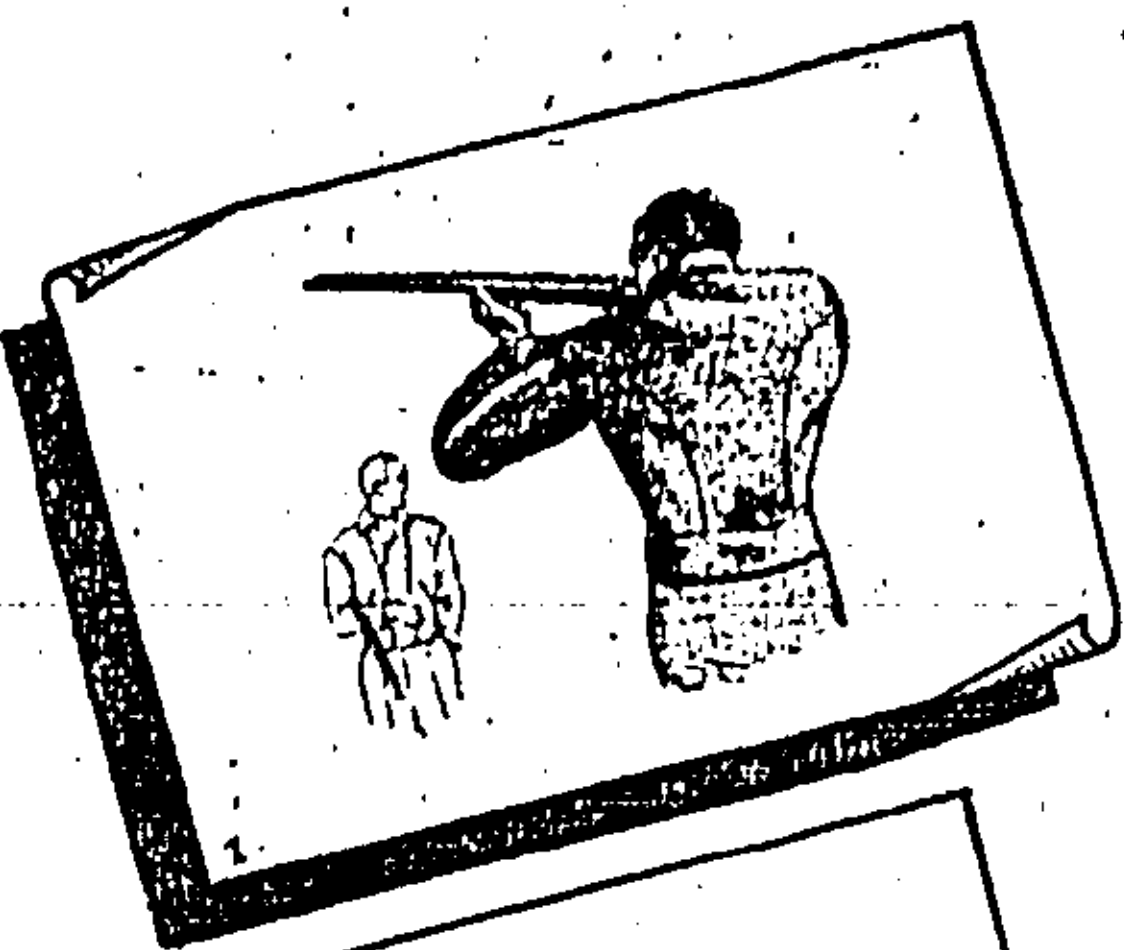
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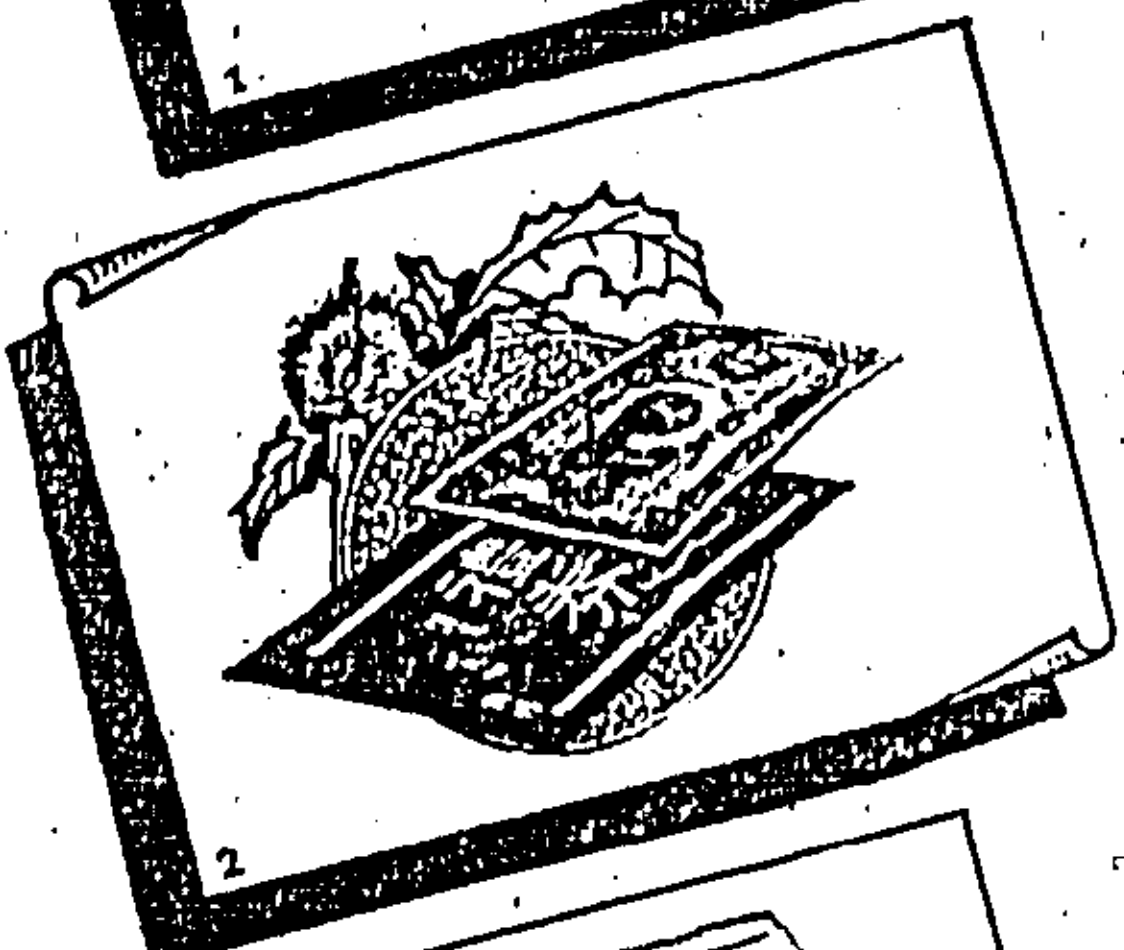
statement on the subject in British subjects at Tangier would be safeguarded. Further unilateral action on December 13 with "all the consequences which flow therefrom" had been vigorously taken up with the Spanish Government.

GIFT Suggestions

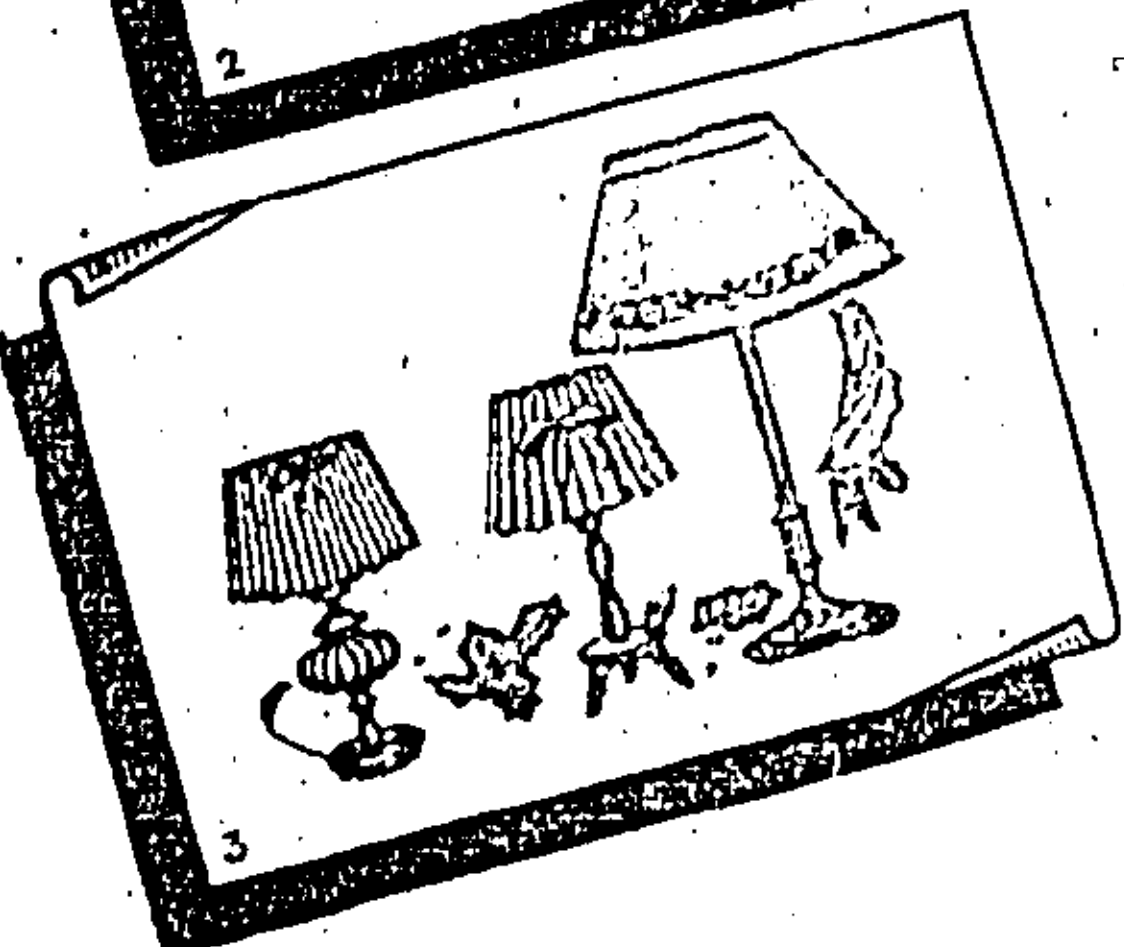


It's fun to give something out of the ordinary, something the others didn't think of—and here are a few suggestive hints.

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ONCE AMERICAN — British gunners aboard one of the 50 destroyers turned over to England by U. S. sight American Browning gun for anti-aircraft use. Destroyers are now being refitted in British ports.

DEFEATISM RIFE IN GERMANY

A PICTURE of a weary nation in Germany is painted by Richard Boyer, correspondent of the New York newspaper "P.M." in the first of a series of articles entitled "Victorious Germany—Land of Gloom," which he has written since returning from Germany.

"At the crest of the wave of German success on June 28, I arrived in Munich. Instead of celebrating, the people were un-mistakably sad and quiet, and weary of the victory bells which rang from noon and acquired the sound of a funeral dirge when one looked at the pinched and tired faces of the Germans.

"There were no cheers when the troops passed by. When I expressed surprise at this, one German impatiently said, 'We celebrated once in 1914.'

I found that the Nazis take it for granted that Germany will invade Russia in 1941, and also that high officials believe that war with the United States is inevitable.

"I found food so deficient in quality and quantity," continues Mr. Boyer, "that army doctors declare that new recruits show signs of weakness until they are built up by army diet."

"The most surprising development in Germany is the dead listlessness which is spreading like a plague and infecting increasing numbers with defeatism. If the contagion is not halted Germany itself, even in victory, may go the way of France."

"For ten days before leaving Berlin I sat in bomb-proof shelters. Never have I seen a people with less elan, with more real depression of spirit. It was not fear, but something deeper, which is what gave the mild bombings of Berlin an importance out of all proportion to the damage done."

They Fear Winter
"Sometimes I would say to them: 'Cherchez la guerre, the war will soon be over, and they would reply: 'Oh, no America and we will have another terrible winter.'

"Then I'd say to them: 'Your papers say you are defeating Britain, to which they replied contemptuously. 'Oh, the papers.' "When I left Germany it was like leaving a prison. Many Germans called and asked me to perform small services for them when I got outside. They begged for food, for stamps. One woman said: Take me with you. Hide me in your trunk, do anything."

"Hitler Is Worried"
"More than once Germans said, referring to Hitler's last speech: 'He's worried, you can tell that by the way he spoke.'

"Official Germany is also worried. They predicted that the war would be over in three weeks. This phase proved a boomers and now the same officials are explaining that Germany is fighting the world's strongest Empire, necessitating a hard struggle."

"For the first time Germans began to feel that Hitler has slipped up. Every day of British resistance causes more Germans to say: 'It will never be over. We shall have a terrible winter—no food, or heat, and bombing every night.'

Thanks For The Buggy Ride!

Latest in sit-down strikes (from America, of course), Mrs. Nellie Karolinsky, of Philadelphia, parked herself in her husband's car and would not get out till he had promised to pay her \$2.10 a week. She took her six-months-old son John along with her. Neighbours tried her, resisted attempts to move the car. She stayed there for three days. She won. But her husband is unemployed, and still isn't sure that he'll keep it up.

HEAD LIBRARIAN SLEEPS WITH

His 500,000 Books

IN the quiet of St James's-square there sits a man who, bombed out of his own home in the suburbs of London, has the most famous subscription library—the London Library.

Mr C. J. Purnell, librarian, has been there for 35 years. He was deputy-librarian when, in the last war, an A.A. shell crashed into the building—and fell on the one spot where it could do virtually no damage.

Mr Purnell rose from his desk and fetched the old shell out of a cupboard when I called on him, writes a London correspondent. Meanwhile he went on telling me how, when finally he had to leave his own house, he and his wife came to live in a flat behind the London Library.

Many of the 500,000 books in the library are irreplaceable. About 150 of the rarest have been sent to a safe place. But around the hundreds of thousands which remain—beautiful, expensive, rare books—the bombs fall nightly.

On The Job

Mr Purnell now sleeps on the premises. Two members of his staff are always on duty in the building. They take it in turns to guard from fire by night the books which they cherish by day.

The library needs all the care they give it. On two nights a shower of incendiary bombs fell dangerously near. One fell on the roof of the flat which Mr Purnell and his wife occupy.

Every morning the staff gather up the pieces of shrapnel and shell splinters which have fallen on the roof. One freak splinter dived into a bay, bounced off a sill, and crashed through a window. It did no damage. I was shown the largest missile which has hit the library during this war—a sturdy piece of steel which became embedded in the roof.

Bright Idea

One excellent notion Mr Purnell has had—he has covered the glass skylights over the central stack of books with a number of sheet steel shelves which were not being used. It is a clever device to protect sloping skylights.

Mr Purnell smiled when I asked him if he did not feel a shade harassed under the weight of his newest responsibilities. "It's no good worrying about it," is all he said.

He should know. When a bomb demolished a wall hundreds of feet away from his home, a 7lb. chunk of brickwork soared over a house and crashed through his roof. He was standing in a bedroom—"watching the fun"—and it fell within a foot of him.

100 Years Old

The library which he guards is unique. Next year it will be 100 years old.

There is plenty of optimism about the future of the library. Mr Purnell told me of an old lady who had just taken out a life subscription for her grandson, aged 21. And he told me, too, of the subscriber living in Cyprus who wrote in June asking for books. His letter arrived in September, when the books were promptly dispatched.

Greatest Air V.C. Of Last War

AIR MARSHAL BILLY BISHOP, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., D.F.C., greatest fighter pilot that the last war produced, now a director of Canada's great Air Force training scheme, has arrived in England at the invitation of the Air Ministry.

He said that R.A.F. officers with brilliant records have been drafted to Canada, where they are teaching fighter-pilots-to-be the latest tactics of aerial warfare, learned in the great battle of Britain.

Until a few hours before he took off for his flight to England, Air Marshal Bishop was inspecting pilots, observers and air gunners who will soon be taking part in the fight against Germany.

The expanded Royal Canadian Air Force now numbers about 25,000 officers and men. Eventually the total will be well over 40,000. Some will be used for the defence of Canada; many others will go to Britain.

Short Training

Billy Bishop said: "The training itself has been short. It may be possible later to shorten it more. We will be able to provide the pilots and the crew—I might say an inexhaustible supply of them."

"They are a grand type of young man, magnificent. They are keen, they are mad on flying—thousands of them, all bursting for a crack at Hitler or anybody who represents him."

In the last war Billy Bishop made his name a byword by his brilliant and daring exploits. Officially he is "known to have brought down 70 German planes—more than was credited to any other pilot."

"Death Or Blindness" Baby Dies

TWO years ago the parents of five-weeks-old Helaine Colan, of Chicago, were faced with the problem of choosing between her life or her sight.

They left the choice to a jury of 12 doctors, who decided to save her life at the risk of her sight.

A £200,000 X-ray machine—the largest in the world—was used for an operation on her eyes, which were affected by a growth.

But despite the efforts of specialists and scientists Helaine went blind. She had lost her first battle.

Support

People from all over the world wrote to the parents supporting the decision of saving her life.

Helen Keller, famous in American literary circles in spite of her handicaps of being blind and deaf, wrote: "The child has every right to a fighting chance. Blindness is not the greatest evil—only a physical handicap which Helaine's mind can overcome."

Parents Planned

Plans were made for Helaine's future. But gradually the tiny flicker of life went out.

The child for whom millions of mothers had prayed had lost her last battle.

German Propaganda In U.S.

Mr Wright Patman, Democratic representative for Texas, has asked the Dies Committee which is investigating un-American activities to inquire into the activities of Carl Byoir, who is alleged to be the highest-paid German propagandist in America.

Mr Patman, according to a New York message, says that Byoir, who is a lieutenant-colonel in the reserve, received \$27,000 in the past 18 months.

Byoir compiled booklets for the Nazi Government, and shortly after he became associated with that Government. Nazi propaganda came over by every boat, it was alleged.

Hired By Nazis

"I know these are serious charges, but I can substantiate them," continued Mr Patman. "Byoir was hired by Germany to distribute Nazi propaganda."

Investigator of the Dies Committee have asked books and papers at the New York offices of the Trans-ocean. The child for whom millions of News Service, which was described as a German propaganda bureau. Dr. Zapp, a leading official of this organization, has been ordered to produce the books to the committee forthwith.

Bomb Cured Paralysed Woman

Miss Lily Townsend, an unemployed milliner, of Randolph Gardens, Maida Vale, paralysed her left arm last February by a fall. Now she has been cured by a bomb.

To help Westminster Hospital, where she was treated, she sells flags in the streets. Recently, Miss Townsend was pinning a flag on a girl's costume when a bomb fell near her and threw her violently to the ground.

Back again in Westminster Hospital, she found on regaining her senses that she could move her left arm.

An official at the hospital said: "Surgeons have come to the conclusion that the paralysis was due to an adhesion, and that in her fall when the bomb burst, she unconsciously used her paralysed arm to save herself and so cured the injury."

WAR OFFICE COLLECTS 4,600 MOTOR-CYCLES

In three weeks, 4,000 solo motor-cycles and 600 combination machines asked for by the War Office have been supplied and are all at work on national defence.

Half the number came from private owners and the others from trade stocks.

Goering's 'Suicide Squad' Mend Shattered Nerves In Norway

LARGE numbers of German pilots and airmen are now resting in Norway. They are men who have been bombing London, and according to statements made to a reporter recently by a man just returned from that country, they are far from a happy band.

They are known as the Suicide Squad," he said. "A number are pilots who used to fly passenger planes between Germany and London. Few, however, are volunteers. The daylight raids are referred to as 'death trips'."

The German pilots based in France, Belgium, or Holland, after two or three raids over England, are ordered to fly their machines to airfields in Norway. Even though they fly from a French base on their first raid over England, they do not return to it. They go to a base in another part of France, or to Belgium or Holland.

This is part of the practice carried out by the German High Command to keep the pilots from talking of their experiences or speculating as to losses sustained.

"We never know where we are going after a raid over London," one pilot told the informant. "Sometimes we fly under sealed orders, at others a radio message comes through while we are in the air. During raids we have to maintain radio touch with headquarters and report progress."

Although there is no apparent shortage of skilled pilots and crews, Germany is now adopting methods of compulsion to obtain pilots. Young officers are taken from cavalry and other regiments and ordered to report for air training.

Under Arrest

Recently three young officers of a famous cavalry regiment were ordered to report for training as bomber pilots. The other officers in the mess decided to give a farewell dinner to them. The dinner was known as the "Farewell to the Suicide Squad."

Result, the organisers were placed under arrest, and all who attended were punished by being sent to danger posts.

Norway to-day is being prepared as the jumping-off ground for intensive raids over Northern England and Scotland in the spring.

Looted Everything

"The Germans," said the informant, "have looted everything and sent great quantities of food into Germany. Meat can be had on only one day a week—if supplies are available. Most of the butchers' shops are closed."

Civilians are now living mostly on vegetables they have grown themselves."

German propagandists are spreading stories throughout Norway of the imminent collapse of England. A few weeks ago they were saying that invasion was about to begin or had taken place from France and Belgium.

"Actually the Germans transported thousands of troops to Norway to train them for the impending invasion. There were many rehearsals on the coast, the troops being taken to sea in small steamers and fishing craft."

"Many of these troops had never seen the sea, much less experienced its behaviour. They went aboard the vessels full of glee. How different was their return. Some had actually to be carried ashore. They would have been a pretty fine invading army for the British to deal with."

Although the air pilots admit that their losses have been in excess of what the most pessimistic anticipated, they say that there is no real shortage of materials.

"Changed Woman" Awarded £1,654

A woman who was stated to have become a nervous wreck through a street accident was awarded £1,654 damages and costs in the King's Bench Division recently.

She is Miss Emily Josephine Hoban, aged 44, of Oakley Square, Hampstead Road, N.W., who fractured her skull when a G.P.O. van backed into her.

Miss Hoban had not been able to resume working.

"She is now a changed woman," said her counsel.

Liability was not disputed by the defendant, Edwin Gentleman, of Oxford Road, N.W.

SECRETS FROM NAZI SCRAPS

Leakages in the Navy's blockade of Germany, and the effect of the blockade on the German economic system, are being tracked from the wreckage of planes and from odd scraps of enemy war material which fall into our hands.

Every plane which comes down in Britain, every piece of equipment it contains, even the uniforms of German prisoners, are closely examined by skilled technicians.

When they find anything a little out of the ordinary the scientists get to work and changes in manufacture or the adoption of new substitute materials are traced.

Scotsman New Chief At Scotland Yard

A Scot, Superintendent Alex Bell, has been appointed to be Chief Constable of Scotland-yard. He succeeds Chief Constable John Horwell recently appointed to the Provost Marshal's department of the R.A.F.

To fill vacancies among the superintendents the commissioner has promoted Chief Inspector Richard Ivor Rees, who was born in Glamorgan forty-six years ago.

Chief Inspector Leonard Burt, recently appointed liaison officer between Scotland and M.I.5, also becomes superintendent.

Detective Inspector Greeno, the Yard's motor bandits specialist, is promoted chief inspector.



FAMILY PARTING—More than 3,500 Puerto Ricans are in army training in Uncle Sam's tropical outpost. Above, Puerto Rican National Guardsman bids farewell to wife and baby at San Juan.

No Basic Changes Are Needed In The Army

DRASTIC investigation into the part which the British Army played in the three weeks' battle of France has revealed that its organisation was excellent and its weapons first class.

Immediately the French capitulated (writes a military correspondent) a number of committees were set up and examined many witnesses to find out if there were any flaws in the organisation of the British Army.

The evidence has shown conclusively that no basic change is required.

Alterations which are necessary are few and of a minor character.

Great Changes

To meet the demands of modern warfare, great changes had been made in Army organisation between the end of the last war and the beginning of this.

Perhaps the most striking alteration has been the astonishing increase in fire power of the infantry battalion.

In 1914 this unit had but two machine-guns; it now has 50, and in addition, carries its own anti-aircraft, and anti-tank guns and mortars.

Smaller Divisions

The Army of to-day believes more than ever that it is better to build a wall of steel than a wall of bodies. Another considerable reorganisation is the reduction in the strength of a division—a move designed to give greater handiness and in these days of mechanisation, mobility.

Fell From Theatre Circle, Is Accused

Alfred Hartley, aged twenty, of Market-street, Whitworth (Lancs), was accused at Rochdale recently of attempting to commit suicide by throwing himself from the upper circle of the Theatre Royal there. He was remanded for medical observation.

Hartley, who was not seriously hurt, was alleged to have said, "I had been courting a girl and she jilted me and got married last Saturday. I thought of committing suicide, but I changed my mind. On Friday night, while in the Theatre Royal, I decided to smash myself up and get put in the infirmary for a few weeks."

Superintendent French said the woman on whom Hartley fell was badly injured. It was not known how long it would be before she recovered.

BEGGAR'S GIFT TO WAR FUND

Moved by the German atrocities on London, a beggar at the city gate went to Lucknow magistrates and paid in four annas (about 4½d.), the whole of his day's takings, to the Governor's war fund.

He had heard of the raids on London on the radio.

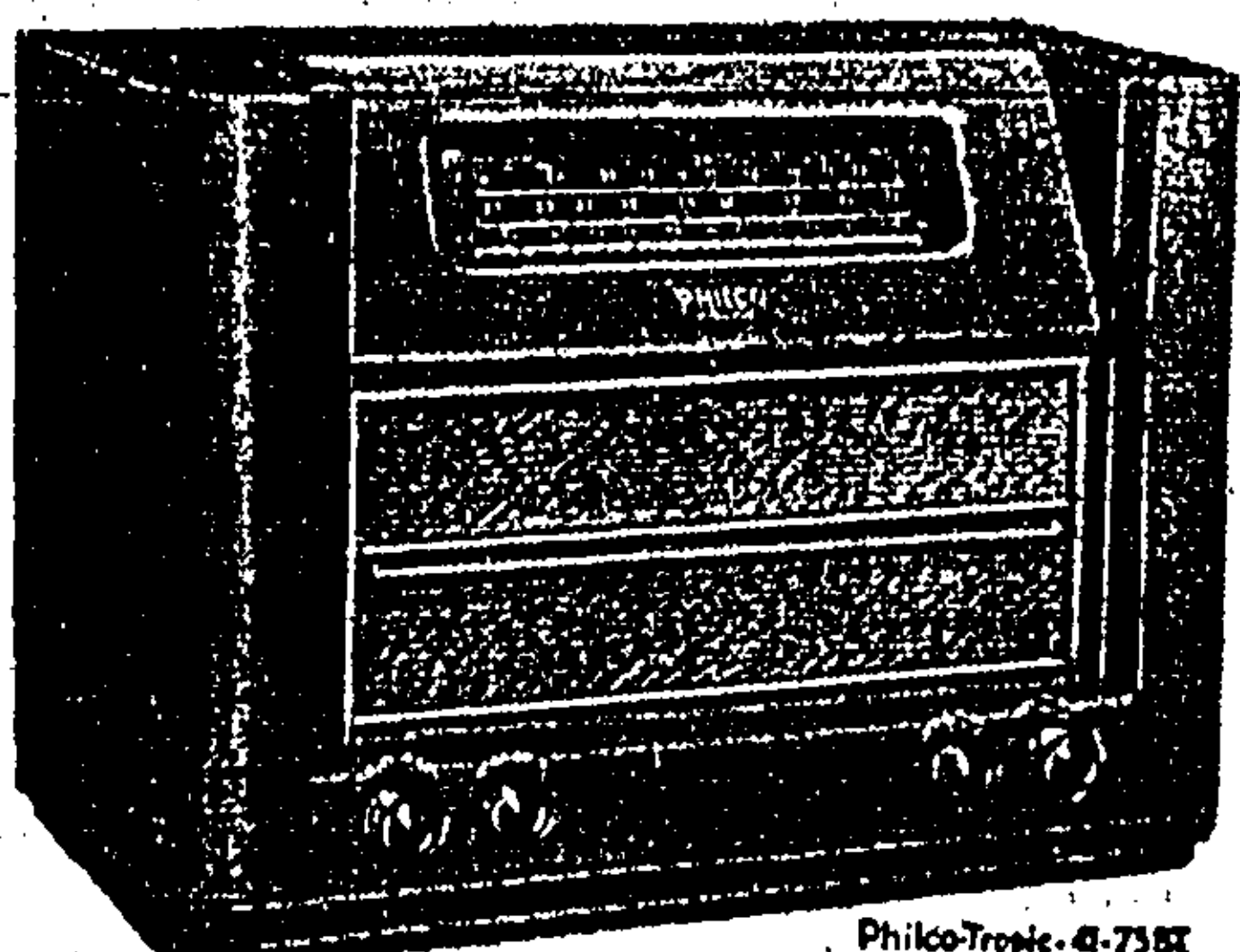
THE TURNING POINT IN CONVALESCENCE

When the crisis is past in illness, recovery may still be a long way off. The real turning point for the better comes when the patient begins to sit out and pick up noticeably from day to day.

Decisive factor in that quick recovery is good food. When patients cannot take solid meals and have a disinclination for most kinds of food, doctors give them Horlicks. Horlicks is so light, that the most delicate stomach can assimilate it, so delicious that the most finicky appetite responds to it. It is a complete food in itself, balanced, highly nutritious, full of the elements that the wasted body needs to restore shattered nerves and build healthy tissues.

Keep Horlicks in the house always. You can get it to-day at your store.

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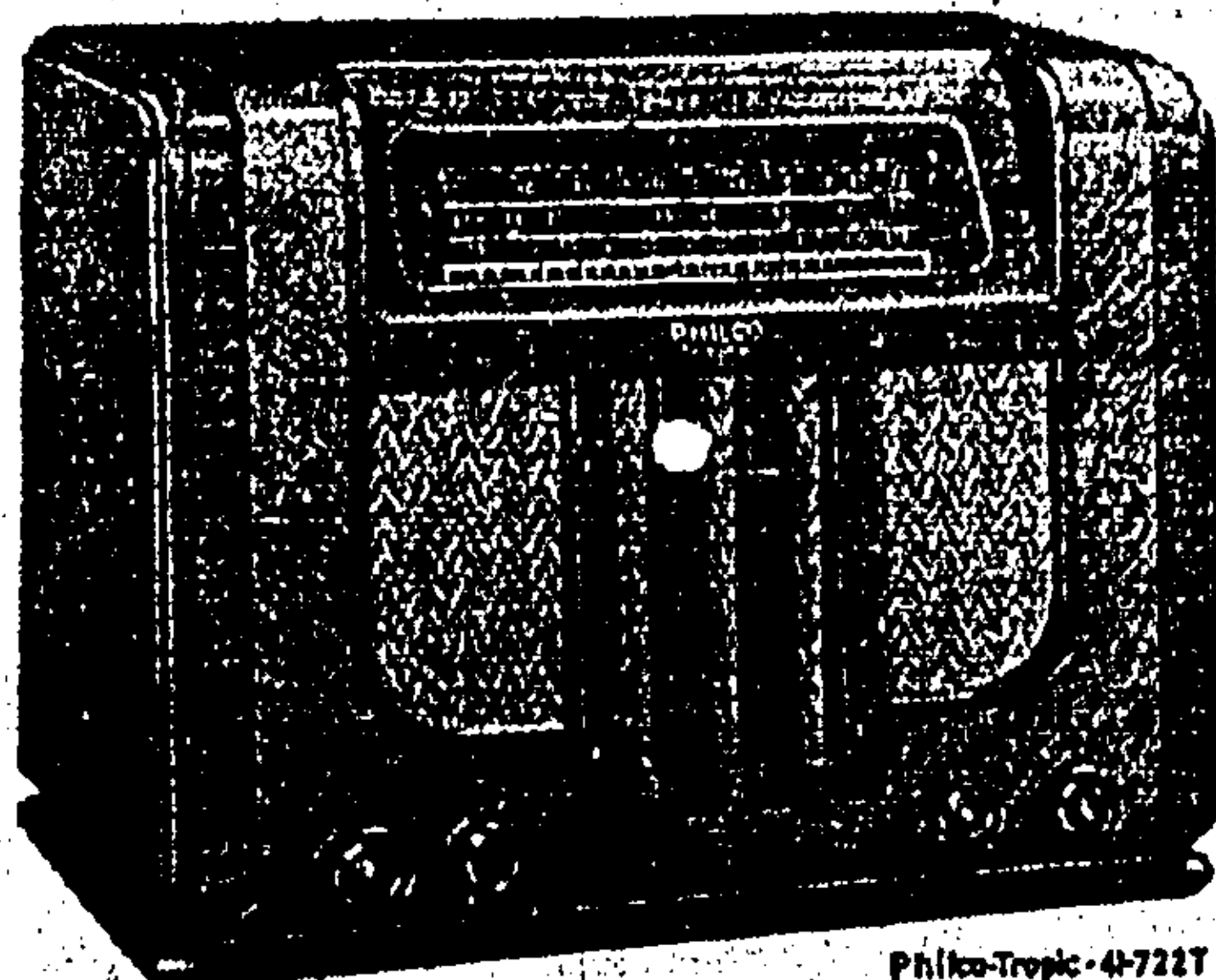
Also a fine selection of RADIO-GRAMOPHONES with Garrard Automatic Record—Changor, or Standard Gramophone Unit, in a choice variety of handsome cabinets.

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The SIMPLEST and SPEEDIEST way YOU can help WIN THE WAR is to give regular CASH DONATIONS to the Government.

- Can You Afford \$100 per month?
- Can You Afford \$10 per month?
- Can You Afford \$1 per month?

NO SUM TOO LARGE. NO SUM TOO SMALL. Fill in the form below and HELP WIN THE WAR.

Donations to 18-12-40: \$1,498,414.14

Remitted to London: £92,389.19.6d.

Hongkong, December 1940.

The Manager,

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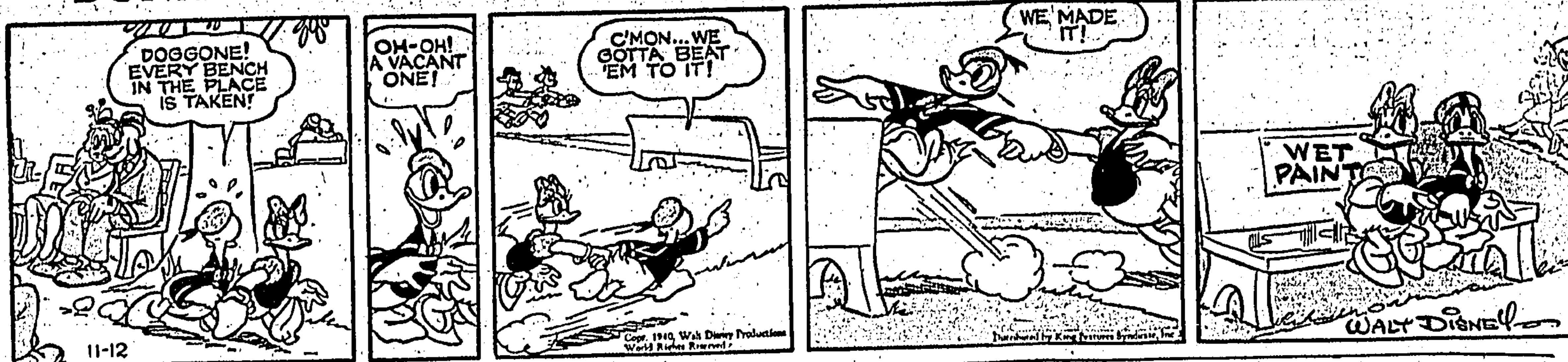
Sir,

Commencing 2nd. January, 1941, and until further notice, please transfer the sum of \$..... Monthly to "War Fund, South China Morning Post Ltd." and debit my current account.

Yours faithfully,

DONALD DUCK

By Walt Disney



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BERLIN IS FULL OF ARMS WORKS TARGETS FOR THE R.A.F.

By A Special Correspondent

NO capital city in Europe is so highly industrialised or contains so many military targets in the heart of the city itself as Berlin.

Its magnificent airport, Tempelhof, unlike any of the other big aerodromes of Europe, is only a short distance from the centre of the city.

For air-travelling business people, and tourists from all countries, it was a very much appreciated advantage to be connected by car or coach within a few minutes with the principal hotels.

But in war-time this is naturally a danger for tens of thousands of inhabitants of the crowded districts of Kreuzberg, Tempelhof, Mariendorf, and Neukölln in the immediate neighbourhood.

Big Centre

For Tempelhof is now, of course, a military aerodrome of vital importance. Apart from this, Berlin has always been, and still is, the biggest arms production centre in Germany, comparable only with the Ruhr district.

Berlin was, and still is, the stronghold of German metallurgical production in which already in peacetime at least 300,000 workers were engaged. Many more it is certain, are working there now.

The Allgemeine Elektrizitäts-Gesellschaft, world-wide known as A.E.G., for example, has plants scattered all over Greater Berlin.

The accumulators factory in Oberschöneweide, in the east, is surrounded by a middle class residential quarter. It is in the middle of dense populated inner-town districts are other plants, such as those in the Brunnenstrasse N.E. and in Moabit N.W.

The huge Siemens works form a special town Siemensstadt, between Charlottenburg and Spandau, which include thousands of workers' and engineers' dwellings.

Old Arsenal Town

Spandau, which also belongs to Greater Berlin, is the State arsenal town of the Reich, including even a gun foundry and plants for every possible manufacture of arms. It is, moreover, closely linked with the second big military air base of the capital, Staaken.

Most of the biggest arms factories are in the outer districts, but nearly all surrounded by residential areas. The Knorr-Bremse in Lichtenberg, and Berthold's electrical works in Rosenthal N., The Loewe Company (also called Berlin-Karlshagen) in Prenzlauer Berg, in Wilmersdorf, N., and near it the famous old locomotive factory Borsig in Tegeln.

In the southern part of the city the number of important factories closely connected with the German war effort is even bigger. The Deutsche Telefon works, in Schoenberg, S.W., the Lorenz Company, the Danier works in Marienfelde, and a belt of big factories in Tempelhof, lining the southern and eastern border of the Tempelhof air-base.

Admits Nazis Might Seize Belgian Food

By W. N. EWER.

THE German taking in Belgium, if their transport breaks down because of war conditions, will "live on the country."

So German authorities have told Mr. John Cuddey, former United States Minister in Brussels.

Mr. Cuddey, who is now in London and talked to Press representatives, is apparently anxious to persuade Americans to send food to Belgium for the relief of the Belgian population.

He "believes" that the German Army would "promise" to regulate food sent for that purpose.

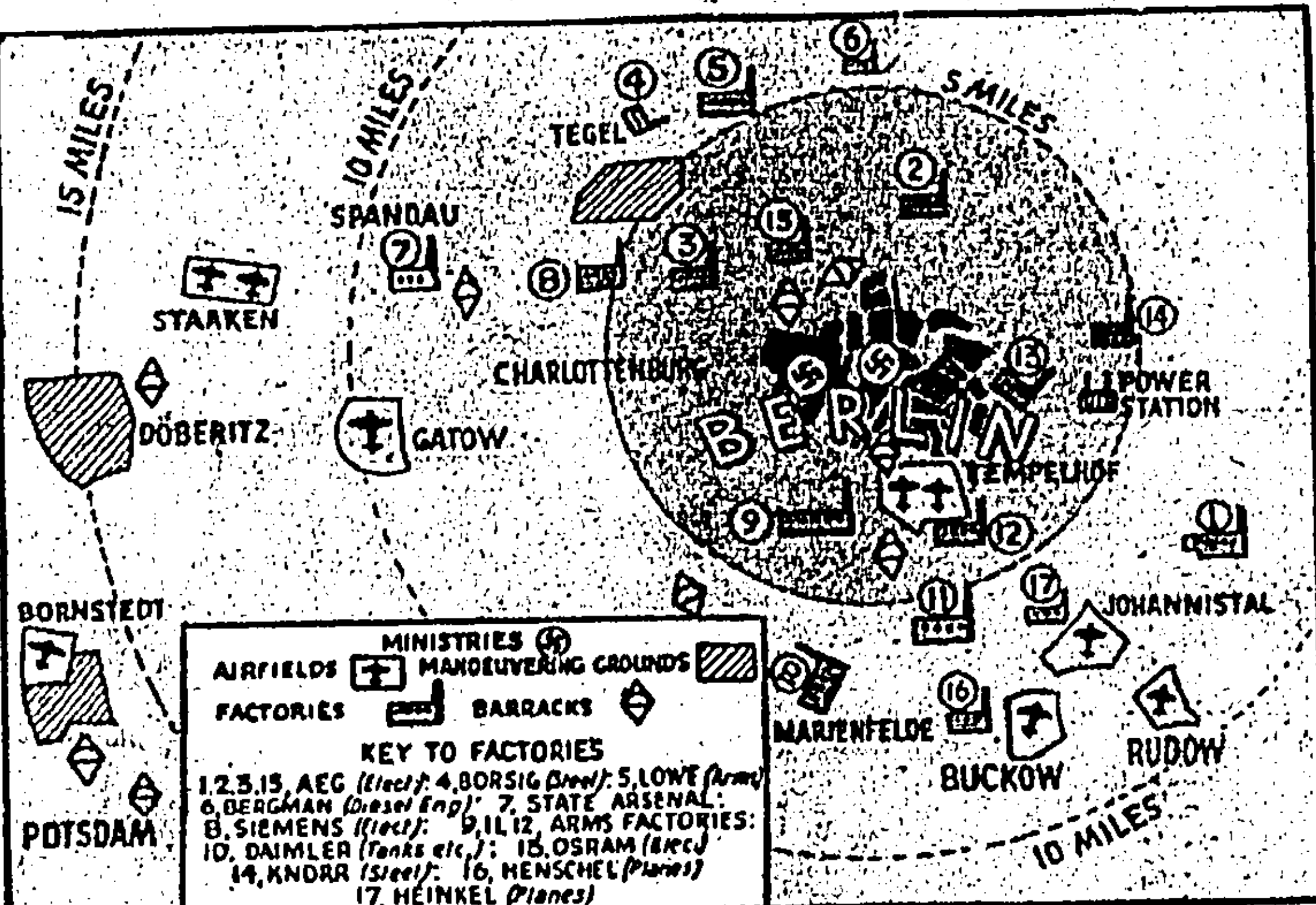
But even he admits that in the event of transport trouble (real or staged) the Germans would take all they could, and let the Belgians starve.

It is significant that even now, according to Mr. Cuddey, the Belgians are only being allowed 225 grammes of bread a day to one person—say two slices.

It is, though he omitted to say so, only two-thirds of what the German people get.

The fact is that Belgium, like the other occupied countries, is being deliberately starved in order to provide food for the Nazis.

For the rest, Mr. Cuddey's interview consisted of warm tributes to the German Army and King Leopold.



NURSES HIT BACK AT RANEE'S 'SLUR'

Nurses are indignant at the slur cast on their profession in reported statements by the Ranee of Sarawak, wife of Sir Charles Brooke, white Rajah of Sarawak, regarding the evacuation of children to Canada.

"If things are not changed, you Canadians will be getting the young riff-raff of England—and you'll be sorry, let me tell you," she declared, according to the "Toronto Globe."

"Women-of-England are faking names of relatives in Canada just so they can get rid of their children," she is further reported to have said.

Lady Brooke also spoke of English "society" women who offered to pay the passages of children going to Canada.

"They placed them in charge of nurses," she went on, according to the paper.

"The only object of many of the nurses is to get a man aboard ship and they don't care what happens."

"Nice youngsters and rotten youngsters are mixed up together. It's shameful."

Strong public criticism of these remarks has been made in Toronto.

In England, Miss Beatrice Maud Drapper, national organiser for the Guild of Nurses, said:

"I think it's a very grave reflection on the nursing profession."

Put Job First

"I'm sure nurses who volunteer for this type of service do so out of devotion to their job because they

Child Flung In Air, Dies

A man who flung a three-year-old boy into the air while at play and failed to catch him gave evidence at the inquest at Birmingham on the boy, Donald William White, of Whitehead-road, Aston, Birmingham.

The mother, Mrs. Doris White, said that she and her sister went to a public-house at night and took the child with them. She heard a bump and turned round to see the boy on the ground.

Albert Edward Davis, of Victoria-road, Aston, said that he picked up the child and tossed him into the air. He slipped, missed his balance, and failed to catch the boy, who fell on his head.

Coroner's Comment

Recording a verdict of accidental death, the Coroner, Dr. W. H. Davison, commented: "Mothers should not take their children to a public-house at this hour."



THE RANEE OF SARAWAK

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



"And don't expect any other callers! I cancelled the fleet's shore leave!"

Crossword Puzzle

By LAIS MORRIS

ACROSS

- Man's name
- Country
- Body of water
- Girl's name
- African antelope
- Debt certificate
- Metal pin
- Ancient gift to gods
- Cactus
- Heavy veil
- Monks
- Enclave
- Weight
- Amiable derision
- Small gate
- Large cup
- Learned
- East
- Spots
- Food drink
- Forty (slang)
- Gratuity
- Useless highly
- Presence of "to be"
- Drawing device
- Branching
- Vari-colored
- Run together
- Close who held up the world
- On a grand scale
- Donch eich
- Look amorously
- Pour out violently
- Poolish

DOWN

- Electrified particle
- Eastern European
- Exchange premium
- Deveree
- Butter
- Cuckoo
- Presenty
- tion of both
- Total
- Put in line
- Deronsville city
- Engraving tool
- With mouth open
- Flood edge
- Thrivefold
- Interacted
- Letter of alphabet
- Spit
- Heck
- Thumbers
- Clumsy
- Vulgar language
- Whittish desk
- Whipped
- Asses for salting
- purpose
- Killed
- Small plum
- Deer
- situated
- Entire
- Dams
- Old times

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12.15 p.m. Short Service of Intercession.

12.30 Humorous Variety.

1 Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements.

1.03 - Derek Oldham (Tenor) and the New Light Symphony Orchestra.

1.30 Reuter and Rugby Press, Weather Forecast and Announcements.

1.45 Tangos and Waltzes.

2.15 Close down.

2.30 Closing Local Stock Quotations.

6.32 Dance Music by Harry Roy and His Orchestra.

7 London Relay—The News.

7.15 London Relay—"Questions of the Hour."

7.30 Variety Programme.

8 Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements.

8.03 Studio—Two Piano Jazz Recital.

8.23 Sea Shanties and Choruses.

8.45 Studio—Local Newscaster.

9 London Relay—The News and News Commentary.

9.30 An hour of Popular Classics.

10.30 Schubert—Rondo in A Major, Henri Reimann (Violin) and the Temankian Chamber Orchestra.

10.45 List—Les Préludes—Symphonic Poem.

London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Albert Coates.

11 Close down.

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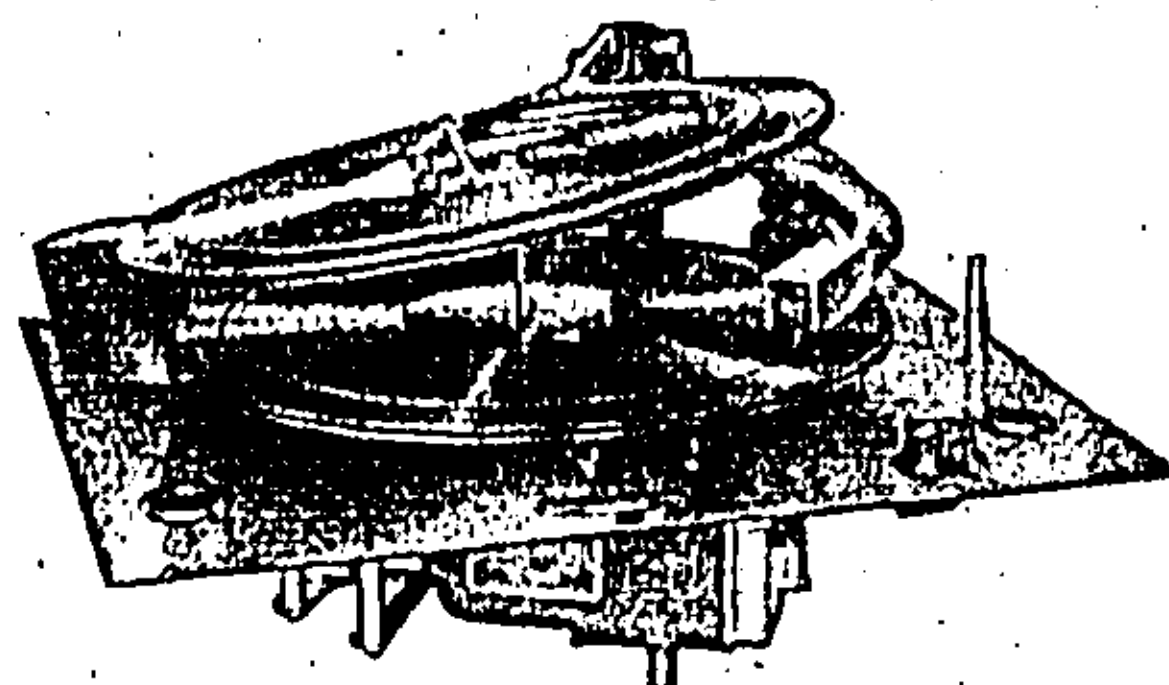
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The Hongkong Telegraph.

Thursday, December 19, 1940.
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Telephone: 28015

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PREPAREDNESS

PREPAREDNESS for a new move by Hitler against Britain has again become the keynote of the speeches by the country's spokesmen. Lord Beaverbrook yesterday told in measured terms of the probable German plans for the future. Simultaneously it was announced that Britain had officially requested financial aid from the United States in order to carry on making purchases of essential war materials, while the Admiralty gave added emphasis to the current situation and the threats of the future by revealing the heavy losses which had recently been suffered at sea.

On the face of it there would appear to be good grounds for despondency, but such is not the case, and neither is it intended that the revelations made by British leaders during the past 48 hours should promote any such reaction. This is an honest, sensible appeal to face realities and to be prepared for anything. It is a necessary attitude, for only by complete preparedness can the Empire thwart the evil machinations of Hitler and his allies.

Britons have never been guilty of underestimating their opponents in a fight, though, perhaps, they have been in the past, too generous in the willing acceptance of specious promises and alleged goodwill. But this is war, and the whole Empire is ready to take the Nazis at their face value. The enemy still retains several advantages, but he has lost one of his greatest weapons—the element of surprise. Britain now has a thoroughly good working idea of what totalitarian warfare means, and daily she is discovering means to counter and defeat it.

Preparedness is the watchword, and this applies both to the supply of war weapons and in the mentality of the nation. Because of this, it is no sign of weakness that Britain now asks the United States for even greater aid than she has been giving; on the contrary, Britain says to her cousin nation "We are prepared; we are preparing; we are doing our utmost in a fight; the result of which means as much to you as it does to us; therefore, give us generously the aid, of which so much is in your power; we ask only assistance against a common enemy." Like Lord Beaverbrook's speech, this is not an appeal to sentiment, but to reason, and because the United States, whenever a crisis has arisen, has never failed to demonstrate her good sense, there is every hope that at this particular time she will support the British nation in her preparedness effort.

"The finest thing we did this year was the somewhat belated but strong-handed action at Oran. It raised our prestige as much as the Dakar episode and our general treatment of Vichy has lowered it. Oran was no half-measure. We want more action of a similar kind."

THIS is no time for half-measures. In diplomacy economic warfare and military operations, we have to go all out.

The brilliant successes of our Air Force are due to bold tactics. In this war, whenever the Royal Navy has been given its head, our seamen have won success by similar methods.

Why, then, the apparent hesitancy and vacillation of our diplomacy?

We had a sharp lesson from Japan, which rewarded our temporary closing of the Burma Road by joining the camp of our mortal enemies.

Another example is our dealings with the Man of Vichy.

Too Tender

Are we persisting in tenderness towards these traitors? They have betrayed their own people as they have betrayed us.

In every direction they have acted against British interests, which are also the interests of France in the long run, in order to curry favour with their German and Italian masters.

They prevented many French soldiers, sailors and airmen from joining us to continue the struggle.

It is known that hundreds of their airmen would have flown their own machines over to Britain if they had been allowed.

Instead, French aeroplanes are used to bomb Gibraltar and kill British subjects as a so-called reprisal for the Dakar incident.

We seem to blow hot and cold towards Vichy. British subjects of military age in France are prevented from leaving, while we repatriate any Frenchman who wishes to return to Vichy-controlled France.

According to the official communiqué issued after the Dakar episode, we sent back the entire crew of a French submarine after the vessel had been caught red-handed

WHY THE VELVET GLOVE FOR VICHY?

by
Lord Strabolgi

and sunk while trying to torpedo our warships.

In Africa

We encourage and support General de Gaulle and his adherents, and we are helping those French Colonies which succeeded in throwing off the yoke of Vichy.

But when there is serious unrest in Algeria and Morocco, and the Vichy Government accuses the British Government of encouraging it, we issue an official denial that this is so.

If it is right for us to foment rebellion against the men of Vichy in French Equatorial Africa, why is it wrong for us to do the same thing in Algeria and Morocco?

Surely we should use every means at our disposal to encourage the inhabitants of the French overseas Empire to join General de Gaulle.

And Indo-China

Observe what has happened in Indo-China.

The Japanese are obtaining complete military control of that rich territory. From it they will be able to threaten both Burma and Thailand, and will have advance bases for possible operations against Singapore.

The local French citizens, Europeans and native, were eager to resist. The Vichy Government had to replace the Governor with one of its own creatures.

What has His Majesty's Government been doing to encourage resistance in Indo-China? The United States of America was willing to help.

Then Dakar. The failure to stop the French warships sailing to Dakar from Toulon, manned by bitter anti-British elements and adherents of the Vichy Government, was due, we are told, to a professional failure on the part of certain elements in the Services to inform the War Cabinet or the First Sea Lord of their departure.

We must accept this information, but it would be interesting to know which department was responsible.

Was it the Foreign Office, which is in superior control of all the Intelligence Services, or was the Secret Service itself at fault?

Or did the news reach

Gibraltar, but was not relayed from there?

Though no doubt the easiest place to intercept the ships was the Straits of Gibraltar, once contact had been made in the Atlantic, surely more vigorous action was called for.

The kindest explanation is that our Intelligence Service was hopelessly out in its reckoning, and not by any means for the first time.

If this is the case, and we had not the right information from West Africa, then the sooner there is a complete overhaul of all our various Secret and Intelligence Services the better.

In the last war, our Secret Service, as I had the best means of knowing on the Admiralty War Staff, was admirable. Two men of outstanding personality were in charge of their respective Intelligence Departments.

Admiral Sir Reginald Hall looked after Naval Intelligence, and General McDonagh the military side, and between them they were highly successful.

Have they no successors?

More Sinister

There is a more sinister explanation; and in the national interest it is desirable that the fullest possible information should be given to Parliament and the public, in open session, as soon as possible.

It is being stated in circles which have means of information that there is still a good deal of tenderness in high places towards the Petain Government.

The reason given is the old story of fear that if they fall they will be replaced by a Socialist, Communist or other Left Wing Government.

The same policy, in pre-war days, hampered our actions and diplomacy in dealing with Italy, especially at the time of Sanctions.

Certain powerful elements were frightened lest Mussolini and his confederates would be thrown out by the Italian people and replaced by a Left Government.

We all know how this same tenderness for "Christian Conservatives" influenced our dealings with Spain, and we may yet eat the bitter fruits of that blunder.

I feel sure the Prime Minister realises that this is no

longer a Nationalistic war. Since the French surrender he must know that we are fighting the Quislings, the Lavalis, the ex-King Leopolds and their like in a number of countries.

These men of Vichy are as hostile to us as are the Nazis and Fascists.

They made their miserable surrender to Germany partly because they were afraid of a revolutionary Government in their own country.

They hate us for continuing the struggle, and also for looking like winners, because this destroys their main argument (for public consumption); namely, that further resistance was hopeless.

Away With Fear

Mr Churchill knows all this, and he also knows that one of our strongest weapons in the future will be to encourage insurrections in the enemy occupied territories themselves.

That being the case, why does he allow certain elements in his own Government to adopt this hot-and-cold attitude towards the Vichy Government?

We need not be afraid of the Vichy Government officially declaring war on us. If it tried to remobilise the French forces under German and Italian command there would be a revolution in France; which would be a good thing from our point of view.

If the Vichy Government committed this final madness, we would at least know where we were. We could tighten up our blockade and there need be no more Dakars.

No Half Measures

Other French warships have recently been allowed to leave the Mediterranean and pass the Straits of Gibraltar, and at the time of writing I have no news of their intentions or whereabouts.

The finest thing we did this year was the somewhat belated but strong-handed action at Oran. It raised our prestige as much as the Dakar episode and our general treatment of Vichy has lowered it. Oran was no half-measure. We want more action of a similar kind.

OFFICER WHO SAVED B. E. F.

HOW a British officer "probably saved the B.E.F." was told recently.

He is Major William Robert Reeves, D.S.O., of the Tank Regiment, once well-known as a runner at Cambridge.

This is the story of his exploit:—

He was in charge of a cruiser tank and three light tanks during the evacuation from France. He took his tanks straight down a road held by Germans.

The light was falling, and the Germans, thinking they were German tanks, let them go through.

Further down the road the British officer found three anti-tank mines. He fired at them. One exploded, but the others did not.

Fought All Day

His sergeant removed them by hand and they went on to Gravelines.

Arriving there in the early morning, the officer turned his tank round, stayed there, and fought all the next day.

With his own tank he destroyed seven German armoured vehicles and held the bridge at Gravelines.

That probably saved the B.E.F., because if the bridge had gone the situation would certainly have been critical indeed at that time.

The British officer and two of his men were wounded.

Spain's Position May Prove Decisive

By

Otto Janssen

(United Press Staff Correspondent)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (UP).—Diplomatic and military observers here are closely watching for any sign as to the position Spain will take in the "new European order" which the Axis powers are attempting to create.

Many informed quarters believe that the course taken by the Franco government may prove decisive in determining the outcome of the present European hostilities. The shifting of the centre of military activities to the Mediterranean region has given new import to Madrid's role.

Military observers generally are agreed that any full-scale Axis attack on Gibraltar, Britain's guardian to the gateway of the Mediterranean, cannot be attempted without the use of Spain as a base of operations.

NOT IN POSITION

Axis naval forces are not at present in a position to attempt an assault of the "Rock," and their aircraft, while capable of inflicting considerable damage, would apparently have little chance of forcing Gibraltar to submit. Aircraft could open the way for an invasion, but they could not "capture" the rocky fortress.

A concerted land and air effort, however, would seriously threaten this vital base, and informed military opinion holds that the Rock could be taken if the attackers were willing to pay the price in men and material.

operations against British shipping, and perhaps for land operations against Allied possessions in Africa.

ATLANTIC BASES

Probably the most important of these Spanish possessions, from a strategic standpoint, is the Canary Islands, lying in the North Atlantic off French Morocco. These islands are regarded ideal as bases for aircraft and submarines.

On the African mainland, across from the Canary Islands, lies the Spanish Gold Coast and the tiny colony of Ifni. Farther down the African coast, below the "bulge", are several small Spanish islands, and several possessions on the mainland, including Spanish Guinea. It may be significant that General Charles De Gaulle's "Free French" forces recently attacked and conquered the Vichy-controlled garrison in nearby Gabon territory.

ATTITUDE OF U.S.

The United States maintains cordial relations with General Franco's government in Madrid, and has indicated a desire to create greater friendship between the two countries. Shortly after the Spanish war ended, for example, the United States made a substantial loan to Spain for the purchase of cotton to rehabilitate that country's war-devastated textile industries.

However, any real cordiality in United States-Spain relations would apparently be determined by Spain's attitude toward Great Britain, since the United States now is pursuing a policy of maximum old short-of-war to the latter country in its war efforts against the Axis.

Tournament Matches

A.N. Other XI Trounce Khalsa Deservedly A.A. Gunners Beat Police "B"

A.N. Other XI 6 5th A.A. "B" 1 KHALSA 3 POLICE "B" 1

A.N. OTHERS accomplished one of their best performances in the league when on the Club ground last Sunday they beat the Gunners 6-1.

During the early part of the game, Others worked out several good openings, but they delayed their shooting and frequently attempted to go one step too far.

However, after 15 minutes' play, Hitchcock found the net with a good shot. This lead was not held for long, for Bigginton soon equalized when he cut through from the right flank and beat Benwell from a difficult angle.

There was no further score when the interval was signalled.

GOAL-SCORING SPREE
AFTER the breather, Others went on a goal-scoring spree when Asley and Morgan added further goals, and Hitchcock completed his "hat-trick."

Although well-beaten, the Gunners never lost hope, and had they been steadier when within the circle they might have done better.

F. Woods did good work at right back, and it was rather unfortunate that he got hurt during the game; he had to leave the field on the two occasions. Speed and Barracough were the best of the halves, and Bigginton and Kennedy were speedy attackers.

WELL-SUPPORTED
WELL-BACKED by their defence, there was always danger when Others launched an attack. Gilchrist, on the right wing, sent in some nice centres and received good support from Asley at right inner.

Hitchcock was a thrustful leader and his four goals were a splendid bag for one day.

Apart from the first 20 minutes, the defence was never in danger of being overworked. Benwell had an idle second half in goal with Gunner, Yourleff and McLaughlin forming a strong triangle in defence.

Coming to the non-appearance of one of the players, a player was eventually persuaded to officiate.

The All-Indian Police "B" team were at home to Khalsa at Boundary Street last Sunday and were defeated 3-1. The home team were out to "down" their rivals but in the end greater experience told against them and Khalsa earned their success.

From the initial bully, the visitors took up the offensive, and after heavy pressure Gurbachan Singh found the net from a pass which came from the right.

Only a few minutes later, Awtar Singh increased the lead to 2-0. The Police defence stood up well to the bombardment and Balwant Singh saved well on two occasions, preventing further goals being scored.

DETERMINATION
THE second half was marked by increased determination by the home team, aided by an easing up on the part of Khalsa. The latter, though still the superior side, were unable to increase their lead, and only on rare occasions did the Police look like reducing it.

However, during a breakaway which followed, Narwant Singh took possession and by some fine dribbling beat Souza with a nice cross drive to reduce the deficit. The visitors had a bad 10 minutes, but recovered to beat off the attacks in a most business-like fashion.

M. H. Hassan, at centre-half, and Mohinder Singh, at left half, gave good displays.

The Khalsa forwards, with their short passing, were still persistent, and Kaminder Singh, in the closing stages, scored the third and final goal.

Awtar Singh led the attack well and Jangar Singh, on the left wing, played true to form.

Narwant Singh, at inside left for the Police, was always forceful and showed much enterprise, but he hung on to the ball just too long. He met his match in Kishan Singh.

Mohar Singh at right back and Darbar Singh, the left half, were the pick of the Police defenders.



PLEA FOR PEACE—Pope Pius XII, broadcasting from Vatican City, makes special appeal to Catholics of U.S., urging "peace between the peoples and nations of the world, based on the equitable adjustment of differences." Pontiff spoke in English on Mission Sunday eve.

Tientsin Municipality Search For Revenue

TIENTSIN, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Embarking on the new year with overdrafts totalling large sums and faced with increased staff salaries and higher costs of coal and all imported materials, the British Municipal Council is casting about for ways and means to boost the revenue.

To-day, at an extraordinary meeting of electors, the Chairman of the Council, Mr. James Turner, tabled five resolutions designed to yield \$917,000:

- (1) Increases in existing land taxes, water and electricity rates;
- (2) Introduction of an entertainment tax;
- (3) Police tax of 3 per cent, assessed in the rental value of all occupied premises;
- (4) Revision of the method of collecting land and rental assessment taxes;
- (5) Collection of all accounts in local dollars at the highest value when payment is tendered.

All five resolutions were passed.

LAVAL FREED

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Reports from Vichy suggest that the strenuous efforts by Herr Otto Abetz, the Nazi Ambassador, to rescue Laval from political disgrace have met with some success.

Laval was received by Marshal Petain yesterday "to discuss the general situation" and was also present during part of the talk between Petain and Abetz.

Presumably Laval was released from the house of detention to which he was reported to have been confined since his dismissal from the Vichy Government.

Left Paris
VICHY, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The mystery about Laval's whereabouts was cleared up this afternoon when a semi-official announcement stated that he had left for Paris "in his private capacity."

Chinese Gift To British

For Air Raid Victims
CHUNGKING, Dec. 19 (Reuter).—The British Ambassador, Sir Archibald Clark Kerr, has received from Dr. Wang Shin-chien, president of the Sino-British Cultural Relations Association, a bank draft for £1,842, representing a contribution toward the relief of suffering in the United Kingdom caused by German air raids.

The sum is donated by Chinese members and friends of the Association, who state that they wish to express their great sympathy for the suffering people of England.

Brazil And Canada

RIO DE JANEIRO, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—President Vargas has signed a decree empowering the establishment of a Brazilian Legation in Canada.

This makes effective the recent Brazilian-Canadian agreement for an interchange of Ministers.

BANGKOK CHARGE

Japanese Air Thai Grievance

TOKYO, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Admitting that fighting between Thailand and Indo-China border troops continued, the High Command in Thailand, in a communique, has charged French planes with bombing open towns indiscriminately, according to a semi-official Japanese report from Bangkok.

The communique charged that French planes on December 16 dropped bombs over Sakannakhon, killing eight persons, and also over Udorn, killing one and injuring many others despite the fact that both towns are known to be open towns and defenceless against aerial attacks.

WAR WORK FOR GERMANY

In Occupied France

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The French Government has no power to control French labour in German-occupied France and there is good reason to believe that factory workers there are being forced to work for German war requirements.

This information was given to-day by Mr. R. A. Butler in the House of Commons, in reply to a question. He added that some workers may have been removed to Germany for that purpose. As far as the British Government knows, there is no conclusive evidence that factories in unoccupied France are being used for repairing German aircraft. This matter is not covered by the Franco-German armistice.

Hitler's Talk To Officers

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Hitler to-day made a speech to 5,000 officer candidates for the army, air force and storm-troops, who have just been promoted to officer rank.

The text of his speech, which was delivered in the Berlin Sportsplatz, has not been published but the official news agency says that the Fuhrer gave the young soldiers the watchword for the duties which lie ahead of them as superiors in the National Socialist Army and for the adjustment of their lives.

Field Marshal von Brauchitsch, Commander-in-Chief of the German Army, spoke afterwards and pledged the Army's loyalty to Hitler.

Ten-Ton Tanks By Air

The Germans are claiming to have devised means for transporting ten-ton tanks by air.

This information does not perturb the War Office. These tanks are only small and are scarcely bullet-proof.

On their own research in this direction is well advanced. The Italians are using tanks for their advance into Egypt, but here their machines are at a disadvantage. These tanks were designed for mountain warfare in Abyssinia, and have great gripping power on the surface. This gripping power was an advantage over the hard, rocky ground of Abyssinia, but on the smooth sand of the Egyptian desert it is a drawback.

More Insulin Now Being Made

Stocks of insulin in Britain are sufficient for two years, states Dr. R. D. Lawrence, physician in charge of the diabetic department of King's College Hospital, writing in the "British Medical Journal."

In addition, fresh supplies are being made by British manufacturers. Dr. Lawrence advises insulin patients, in case circumstances arise when local distribution might be temporarily upset, to have a month's supply in hand. He also urges them to carry with them the information that they are diabetics taking insulin, and the kind and dose they should receive.

Duchess Of Kent's Sister Escapes

Countess Torrington-Jellensbach, sister of the Duchess of Kent, has escaped from the Nazis, and is safe with her other sister, Princess Paul of Yugoslavia.

The Duchess of Kent heard this news recently. Countess Torrington, whose home is in Munich, has had her movements restricted for some time.

The Nazis are thought to have suspected her of pro-British sympathies. Her husband is serving as an officer with the German Army.

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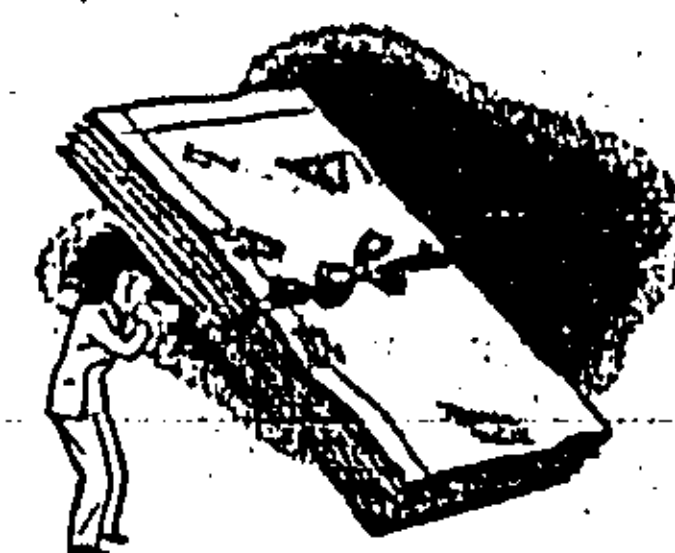
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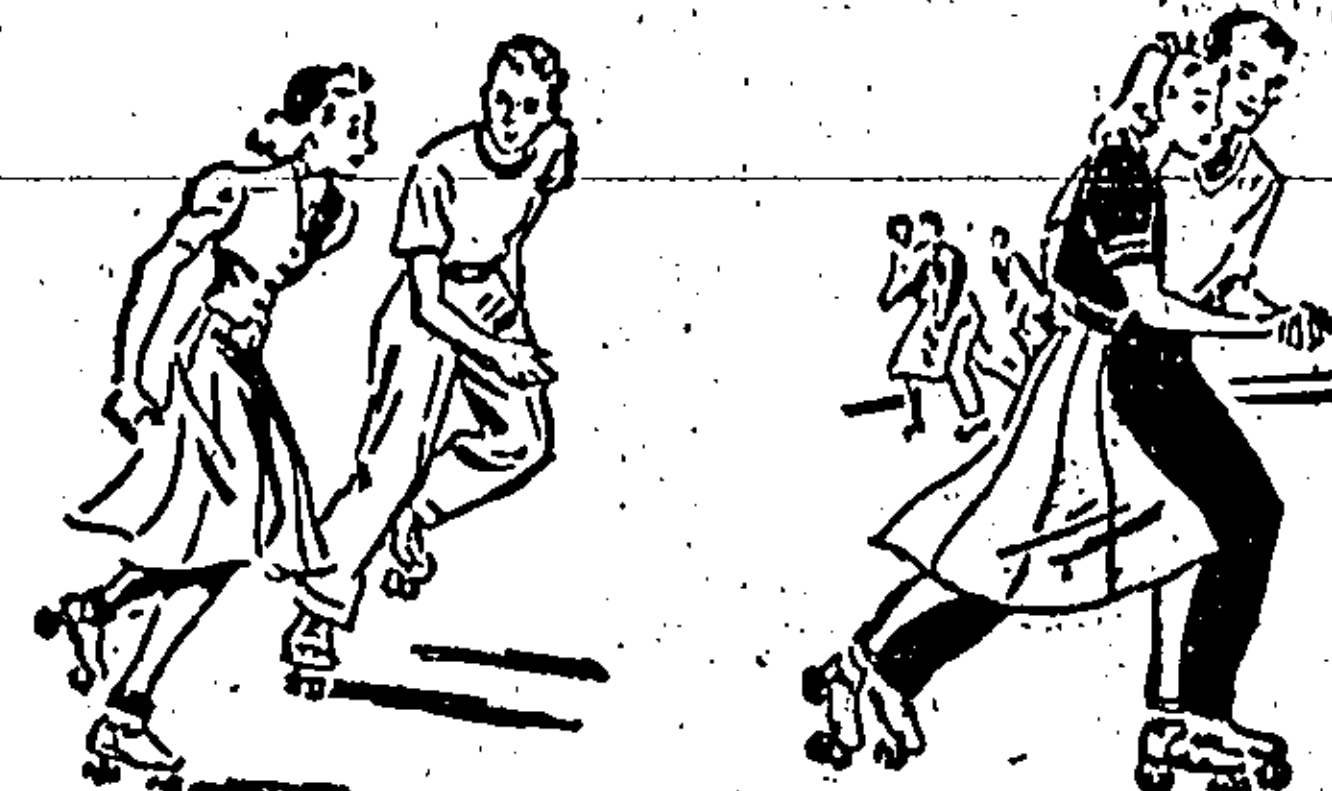
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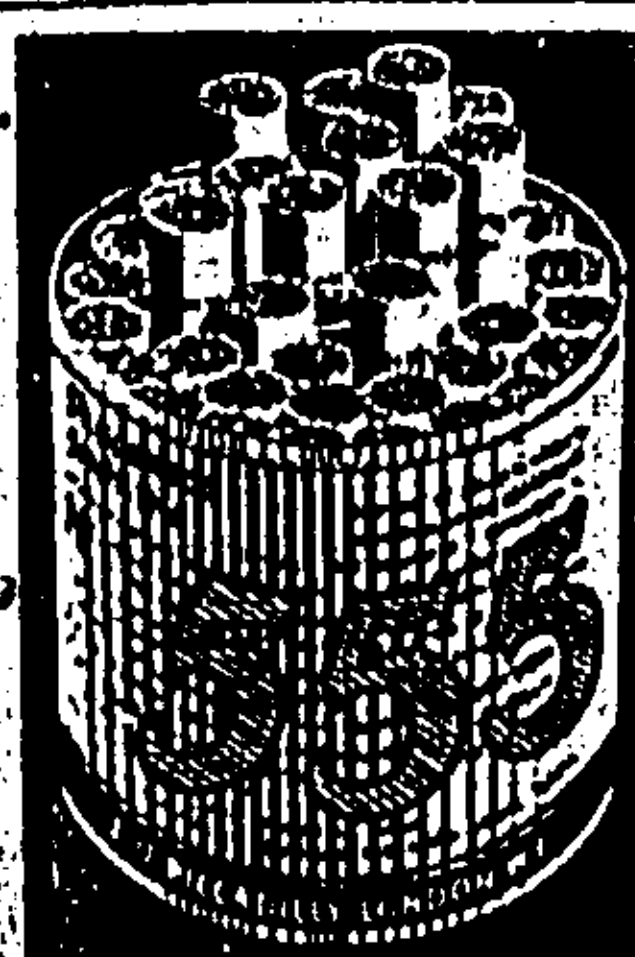
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Phases Of Game That Should Be Learned

SOUNDNESS IN DEFENCE

SOUND TEAM WORK will defeat clever individualism every time. Even moderate players, if they know the secret of teamwork, may improve their personal play appreciably provided that they recollect that hockey is a game with a small ball which is so easily intercepted by an opposing half or full-back.

With this point in mind, if the ball is passed and re-passed rapidly and all the halves follow up closely, and if a forward has lost the ball in a tackle, and his own half is up in an attempt to retrieve it, it enables him to go through or to put another forward through instantly without any slackening of speed.

Proper sympathy and understanding as between backs, half-backs and forward promotes the real team work.

The science of marking is better understood in practice by modern players than by those of the older generation. Defences have vastly improved and are stronger and more effective in marking. It is one of the fundamental elements of the game to mark your opponent closely. The player has to watch where the ball is and what his opponent proposes to do. He must be in readiness to follow any attempt to get the pass to one of the other side.

Weak marking brings a stronger attack upon their own goal, for when a forward is soundly covered he can be easily put off his usual game. Wing halves should mark their respective wing forwards, the centre-half the centre-forward and the full-backs pay their main attention to the inside forwards.

If there is bad marking in the half line it throws greater responsibility and work on the full backs and the goalkeeper.

Tackling

It is a big playing asset to one's team to be a sound tackler. The main point is to know the right moment when to tackle and how to carry it out skillfully. A sound and efficient tackle means a good deal to your side.

To be a successful tackler you must focus your eye on the ball and utilise your wrists. Then again, anticipation is highly important. The player who has this gift at once becomes a deadly sure tackler, and to the full-backs and halves, it is a primary function.

To the full-back, the lunge stroke is valuable. Hesitation in tackling by either of these sets of players, or the adoption of a retreating movement reveals unsoundness.

K.C.C. Bowls Team

Kowloon Cricket Club will meet United Services Recreation Club in a lawn bowls match on Saturday at U.S.R.C. at 2.30 p.m. when the following will represent them: J. A. H. Martin, P. Wellwood, A. Wright, J. Fraser, C. Biddle, D. Wylie, V. C. Labrum, W. W. Parsons, A. W. Smith, C. J. Tschel, G. E. Taylor, R. H. E. Marks, Reserve, R. S. Capell.

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AT CLUB GROUND, KING'S PARK



A MOMENT of action during the Tournament League hockey match between the 5th A.A. "B" and A.N. Other XI at the Club ground last Sunday. A.N. Others won easily by 6-1.—Ming Yuen.

UNIVERSITY PLAY MACAO AT HOCKEY & BADMINTON

MACAO, Dec. 18.—True to tradition, Macao displayed much enthusiasm in the hockey matches which took place here yesterday and to-day and large crowds were present. The visitors consisted of the team of the Hongkong University.

In today's game, the University lost by three goals to nil against a team of the Macao Hockey Club consisting of 1st and 2nd Division players. Both teams were in fine form, and the game was brisk from start to finish.

Early on, Macao showed a definite superiority and had the better of the exchanges. The front line attack had lost none of its prowess and combined understanding with the defence. The University had hard work to withstand the many thrusts of their opponents.

However, the Hongkong side seemed on the point of drawing blood when Tan broke through, but his fast shot went wide of Macao's custodian. Fred Nolasco made a brilliant individual effort in the lightning dash past the University defence, but tripped at the moment of scoring. Soon after, Rosario sent a fine angle shot toward Gupta, who anticipated accurately and cleared.

Some ten minutes before the interval, the Hongkong side scored the first goal following a short corner when Fred Nolasco directed the ball between the posts.

Further Goals

UPON RESUMPTION the energies of the University defence were taxed to the utmost as there seemed to be a continual storming of the University citadel. Working in fine combination on Macao's left flank, Rosario passed to Angelo who centred to Gustavo Silva and on his swift manoeuvre past Low, Silva sent a flying ball into the net.

But for Gupta's keen eye, more goals would have been scored by Macao. Alex Alosa all but scored when an extremely fast ball rebounded from the post.

In his new position on the forward line during the second-half, Alosa acquitted himself splendidly, and following some clever stick work he slashed a terrific shot which found the net.

The University's defence merited the highest praise, Ltow and Tam being inspiring throughout. Hans Raj, Chin and Ho persisted splendidly and were unlucky to meet with the unbreakable resistance of Ferreira and Trigo Silva.

Guilty: N. H. Low, Khor: Singh, Low, Tam (Capt.), Tan, Chelliah, Hans Raj, P. L. Ho, H. Ho, Macao: Alex Alosa, Santos Ferreira, Alex Alosa, J. Nolasco, Trigo Silva, Soares, Fred Nolasco, Albert work, Gustavo Silva, Angelo, Rosario.

Victory Over Macao Lyceum

IN YESTERDAY'S encounter, the University defeated the Macao Lyceum by one clear goal. At the commencement the visitors seemed to be all too keen on individual play, but some good passing was observed as the game progressed.

The teams were very evenly matched and Macao was particularly strong with Almeida, Trigo Silva and Leitao, the half-back trio. Rocha and Arnaldo Silva were conspicuous on the forward line with Gustavo Silva and Rodrigues leading the attack.

Before the interval, a ding-dong battle featured the game, but resumed after the break, and Hans Raj pressed constantly against the home goal area, and before long, following a general melee, Hans Raj took a first chance and registered for the University.

University: N. C. Gupta, N. H. Low, Khor: Singh, Low, Tam, Li, Tan, Chelliah, Hans Raj, Amplayanar, Ho (Hon. Sec.). Macao Lyceum: N. Leco, J. Nolasco, J. Noronha, Almeida, Trigo Silva, Leitao, Rocha, Arnaldo Silva, Gustavo Silva, Rodrigues, Soares, O. C. Corra, Correspondent.

DECISIVE BADMINTON WIN FOR UNIVERSITY

MACAO, Dec. 18.—Macao welcomed the opportunity of meeting the Hongkong University in a badminton contest this evening and despite the fact that it was a one-sided encounter throughout owing to the vast superiority of the visitors, the Macao Club contestants were treated to a real test of their abilities by accomplished players from Hongkong.

The best set that Macao Club could put up was performed by junior players, Rebbi and Rosario, who had to face the crashing drives of Choy and the keen agility of Amplayanar.

The match was a walk-over for the University, Macao losing all the sets. Scores were as follows:—

W. H. Choy and S. Amplayanar beat H. Noronha and Trigo Silva 21-3, 21-0, and 21-0. Alfred Silva and Albert Jorge 21-0, 21-0, and 21-0. T. T. Chin and S. L. Yong (Capt.) beat the respective Macao pairs 21-0, 21-11, and 21-5. C. K. Cheah and M. S. Lim won by 21-7, 21-0, and 21-12.—Our Own Correspondent.

Rugby

Club "A" Beat Navy "A" In Second Half

AFTER A scoreless first half, Club "A" beat Navy "A" by 9 points (three tries) to 3 (a penalty goal) in a game of rugby at Happy Valley yesterday.

Poor running and passing might be said to have cost the Navy the game, for their pack was dominant throughout. They took their 3 points' lead early in the second half when Hughes, scored with a penalty kick, though in the first 10 minutes of the game he had missed a similar kick from in front of the posts.

Alec Pearce gave Club their first points when he wriggled over with an opponent hanging on, and it seemed the turning point of the match for thereafter Club were all over their opponents, and further unconverted tries were scored by Bonanquet and D. Hynes.

Teams were: Club: P. M. Thompson, Bonanquet, T. A. Pearce, D. Hynes, Needham, Charley, C. Walker, Gunnell, Olsen, Benn, Dingle, Hedman, Castleton, B. Hynes, Navy: Mid. Roe, L.A.C. Gracie, Mid. O'Meara, E. A. Wilson, L.A.C. Stockman, Burg, Lt Jackson, Capt. Winter, Yeo, Mitchell, P. O. Jones, A. D. Hughes, S.B.A. Dagg, A. B. White.

Pony Classification

The following are the alterations and additions to the Hongkong Jockey Club pony classification lists, dated May 28, 1940: Australian ponies—Connleber, Many Thanks and Roper, C. A. Great, Quikie, Walkden, Prince, Double Pines, Quikie, Despatch, Sea Jew and Windfall in Class, and D. Class. China Ponies—Roy Roy to B. Class; Mr. of Polly G. Class; Dawn Star, Eye of Hurricane, Leaning, G.H. Lively Star, Royal Wedding, Eva, Seaside View, Soldier of Britain, Lt. Chubb, Lt. The Gold Colt, Hurricane, Meteor, National Success and Palace to A. Class.

Random Jottings

A Reply To "Umpire"

SINCE "UMPIRE" has found it necessary to comment on my Random Jottings, I again take the pleasure in using this column for his benefit.

"Umpire" seems annoyed at the facts published, and states that the Umpires Association holds no responsibility for the arrangement and cancellation of fixtures, etc. No one accuses the Association for such, but the umpire who, were informed of the cancellation of a certain match, should have informed the Secretary of the Umpires Association, and he could have informed the Press. That is where my reference to co-operation comes in. If some of the umpires are not guilty of gross negligence, I should be pleased if he would clarify the following incidents which took place and do take place very week-end—since he seems to be defending the Association, on his own.

December 1.—Two umpires failed to appear at a certain game. The excuse or apology has been given to the representatives of the teams concerned by the Umpires Association (I suppose "Umpire" thinks that this is for the good of the game).

In another game on the same day one umpire was missing though during an important fixture elsewhere five umpires were present.

8th December. In a certain fixture one umpire appeared and he consented to do the match himself. No statement has been made by the Umpires Association yet.

1st December. One umpire failed to appear at a morning League game and, after a delay of 15 minutes, a spectator was called upon to officiate. I hear on good authority that the missing umpire was busy doing an Army game.

I COULD mention several other cases since the season commenced, but I suppose that "Umpire" would say that this was detrimental to those who are doing their best.

My point is this: since those incidents do occur there must be a lack of co-operation among the umpires and the Association. One cannot blame the Hon. Secretary as his job is not all "honey", and I know for certain that he does his best and that he is often let down by certain umpires at the last moment. I hope "Umpire" is not included among these.

Personal remarks on umpires I do pass on occasions, but I do always make it a point not to mention any official name when he is condemned for bad judging.

Mr. J. T. K. Gilchrist came in for special comment and he deserved it. Whether he attends the umpires' meetings is no concern of mine, but I do know that he is officially nominated by the Umpires Association and that he has been umpiring since the days of the Manak Tournament which is not merely two years ago.

"Umpire" should not sever his connection with the Association just yet for if he does it is obvious that the public will certainly find out who he is, these officials have their names published every week-end.

In my estimation I am very doubtful whether many will join "Umpire" if he does.

Since "Umpire" has been blowing a whistle for the last two years, and I presume, he has been a reader of my notes, he ought to know who first suggested the Umpires' Association.

Older readers of this column will appreciate that I have always given the umpires every practical sympathy and support. It has been a firm rule that no adverse criticism of his qualifications shall be published but if such incidents as stated above do occur, it affects the teams that participate in the League and as such calls for attention.

The Umpires' Association and its members, good sportsmen and volunteers, take upon themselves their weekly self-imposed duties of controlling the matches, so far as present numbers allow, and I was only suggesting in my notes a week ago that these duties should be well done.

However, I am not suggesting for one moment that "Umpire" was involved in any of the incidents published, but I would remind him for the love of the game, "if the cap fits, put it on."

LEAGUE fixtures for Sunday next are: Gunboats v. A.N. Other XI (Navy ground), 10.30 a.m. 5th A.A. "B" v. Police "A" (Lyemum), 11.30 a.m. R.E. v. Necrele (Bookunpoo), 11 a.m. Khalsa v. 2nd M.T.B.'s (Police ground), 10 a.m. University v. C.B.A. (Pokfulam), 4 p.m. Punjab v. Despatchers (Marina), 4 p.m. Signals v. Police "B" (Sookunpoo), 4 p.m.

Id. 28151.

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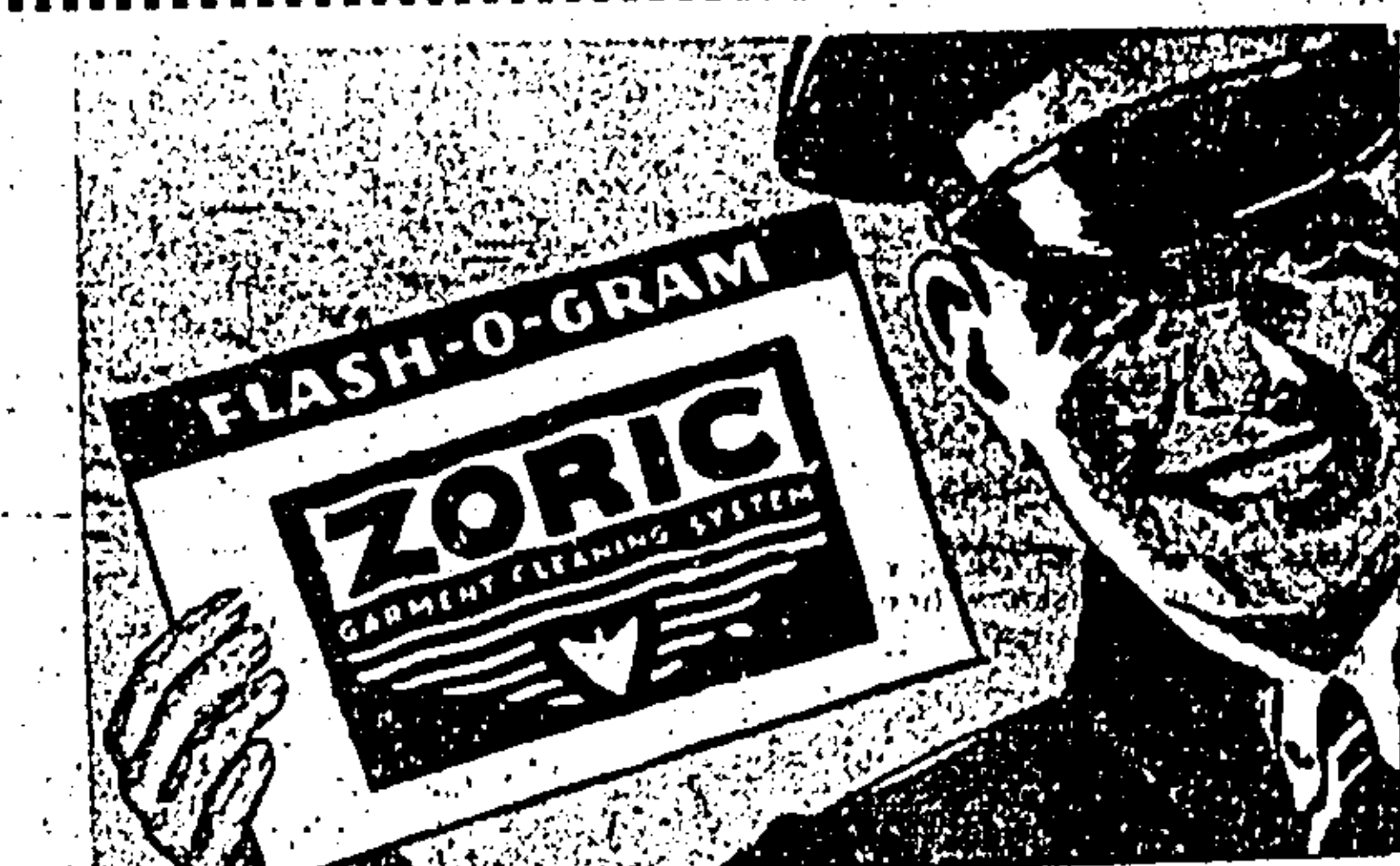
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TO-MORROW AT THE KING'S



FOUR YEARS MORE—President Roosevelt in front of voting booth at Town Hall, Hyde Park, N. Y. Mrs. Roosevelt is at left, with President's mother, Mrs. James Roosevelt. President's bodyguard, Thomas Qualters, at right. President was re-elected for four more years.

Future Relations With British Empire Speculated In U.S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (UP).—Aid to Britain "short of war" has led to United States-British relations of such cordiality as to inspire widespread unofficial speculation and comment concerning the manner and means of closer co-operation after the coming of peace, or in event of long-continued struggle.

The popularity of Mr. Winston Churchill in America, the destroyers-versus-bases deal, and the general popular feeling that the British Navy is one of the forward defenses of the Monroe Doctrine, have inspired new currents of sentiment and new lines of industrial and commercial interest, of which the political significance might become apparent only after the European war has reached a major climax.

For the first time in history, American popular preoccupation has been with the "British Empire," as distinct from Great Britain alone. This tendency followed apprehension in early months of the war that the motherland might be battered to prostration by Nazi air attack, in which event the Royal Navy or the Royal Family, or both, might establish themselves in North America.

That earlier fear was largely dissipated in recent weeks when the Royal Air Force showed amazing powers of resistance.

American interest in the British Empire was also quickened when Japan joined the Rome-Berlin Axis, as this event appeared to create a greater necessity and likelihood of British-American naval co-operation in the Pacific.

Sentimental ties of the American people with Australia and New Zealand have grown notably stronger during the war period.

Trade Figures

The economic background of the American-British sympathy was strikingly illustrated by a Department of Commerce statistical report covering the first year of war, ending September 1, when the United States exports to British Empire countries were valued at \$1,740,000,000 and represented 44 per cent. of all United States exports. In August of this year, 65 per cent. of all United States exports were going to Empire countries.

The shipments to British Empire countries during the first year of the war exceeded United States exports to all countries in the acute depression years of 1932 when total exports were valued at \$1,611,000,000 and 1933, at \$1,675,000,000.

During the first year of the war, purchases by the British Empire from the United States were divided as follows: \$779,974,000 by Great Britain; \$622,583,000 by Canada; \$33,143,000 by British India; \$76,036,000 by Australia; \$84,219,000 by the Union of South Africa; and \$113,081,000 by all other British countries.

These figures compared with United States exports in the calendar year of 1939 as follows: To United Kingdom, \$563,227,000; to Canada, \$493,450,000 to British India, \$42,

\$13,000; to Australia, \$61,554,000; and to South Africa, \$70,376,000.

Future Prospects

The trend of war-time events has suggested the prospect that commerce with British Empire countries may stabilize at between one-half and two-thirds of the United States' total trade. Since the United States is already virtually eliminated from continental European markets by blockades and self-imposed embargoes, her trading area is practically confined to Latin America, the Pacific and the Indian Ocean.

In the event that Japan's Axis connections should lead to disruption of United States commerce with Japan, this country's foreign commerce would be confined virtually to the British Empire and Latin America. Trade with the Empire would be threefold that with Latin America.

South American countries obviously have numerous complementary commercial interests with United Kingdom, and a trilateral relationship of South America, Great Britain and United States was a characteristic feature of world commerce in earlier decades of relatively free commerce.

New Trend Indicated

If events of war should lead to permanent Axis domination of Europe with consequent indefinite isolation from sea-borne world commerce, experts point out that the smaller bloc of world trading powers might find it convenient to consider measures hitherto undreamed of for improvement of financial and commercial relations.

Several indications of such a trend have already been seen. First, impelled by necessity, Britain traded base sites to the United States in exchange for destroyers; the United States promptly assured other American republics of their right to use these base sites. Hence the entire transaction attained a definitely triangular aspect to the common advantage.

Secondly, the triangular economic relationship between United States, the United Kingdom, and the La Plata countries recently has been widely commented, and may become the motivation of official steps. The United States desires to aid Great Britain and has credit resources with which to expand exports to the La Plata; La Plata countries in turn

FATHER DIVINE

—Acquirement of New "Heaven"

WHITE PLAINS, New York, Dec. 18 (UP).—Followers of Father Divine, Negro cult leader, have acquired a new "heaven" in exclusive Westchester County—about two miles from the borders of the John D. Rockefeller estate.

The property is a 69-acre estate and mansion. A deed transferring the property to 33 joint tenants, many of whom are associated with Father Divine's movement, has been filed. The estate was formerly the property of Leo S. Bing, a member of the large New York real estate firm of Bing & Bing. Purchase price was \$36,000. The property is assessed at \$170,000.

Directly opposite the property is the estate of the Duchess de Tallyrand, the former Anna Gould. The historic old Washington Irving House is about a half mile distant.

Among the joint tenants listed in the deed transfer were Nicholas Moses, Peace Love, Daniel Conquerer, Queen Elizabeth, Martha Faithful, Merry Martha, Love Patience Job, Positive Spirit, Blessed Virgin Mary, Victory Front, Radical Child and True Vocabulary.

desire to maintain exports to Britain in maximum volume and are net debtors to Great Britain; the latter country in turn needs foodstuffs and raw materials but cannot maintain normal credit relations with the United States because of restrictions imposed by the Johnson Act.

Important Aspect

Normally, many countries of South America are competitors with the British Dominions in markets of the United Kingdom. The Dominions "sheltered" themselves in that market by the Ottawa agreements. Under war-time conditions all historical bases of commerce may be disrupted because of unprecedented conditions in finance and shipping.

Relations between Washington and London therefore became of transcending importance to the countries that rely on sea-borne commerce.

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KOWLOON

BRITISH BOMBERS ACTIVE ON ADRIATIC: DURAZZO RAIDED

ATHENS, Dec. 18 (UP).—British bombers have extended their range of action on the Adriatic coast and again attacked Durazzo, whence the Italians are shipping troops in an effort to establish a secondary defence line to be held in the event of the southern line from Valona to El Bassan to Lake Ochrid collapses.

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

Five Persons Killed Last Week

In the Colony of Hongkong, including the Island, Kowloon and New Territories, during the week ending at 8 a.m. last Saturday, there were altogether 73 traffic accidents, as the result of which five persons were injured.

Of those killed, an 8-year old boy was knocked down and killed by a public car while crossing the carriage-way, and four Chinese male bus passengers died from injuries received as the result of a collision between vehicles.

Of the injured, nine were pedestrians who were struck by vehicles while crossing the carriage-way.

A bicycle rider, a tricycle rider and three bus passengers were injured as the result of collisions between vehicles. A lorry passenger was injured on falling off a moving lorry. Three bus passengers and four train passengers were injured while alighting from moving buses and moving trains, respectively.

Of the accidents, 23 were collisions between vehicles, 29 were collisions between vehicles and pedestrians, and 21 were due to other causes.

More Refugees In Colony

An increase of 93 persons is shown in the latest figures issued by the Medical authorities of the number of destitutes in Government camps here. The figures for December 14 are given below with those for December 7 in brackets:

King's Park 1,304 (1,311); Matauchung 1,198 (1,150); North Point 1,406 (1,405); Morrison Hill 538 (538); Tai Hang Squatters Camp 2,557 (2,557); Ngau Tau Kok Squatters Camp 795 (795); Kam Tin; 1,047 (1,047); Fanling Children's Camp 293 (293).

Soldiers—Argyle Street 701 (701); in hospital 20 (20). The grand total for December 14 was 10,659, as compared with 10,566 on December 7.

Miss Harrop Opens Bazaar

The Chinese Handicraft Co-operative Society held their first bazaar at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce yesterday. The sale was opened by Miss P. Harrop, Lady Assistant at the Secretariat for Chinese Affairs, who is Chairman of the Committee. She cut the ribbons with a pair of silver scissors presented to her by the Committee in honour of the occasion.

Attractive trays, screens, figurines, cocktail sets and vases in lacquer were on display, besides carved wooden figures, and carved ivory articles. Silver lacquer plaques of the map of China with a portrait of the Generalissimo inset, should prove popular.

The proceeds of the sale will be devoted to work for the 60 refugee women being looked after by the Society, which teaches them to make lacquer-ware, do embroidery and so on. Articles made by these women were on sale at the bazaar, and patrons were invited to give orders for things in any size and of whatever colour they desired.

The bazaar will be continued to-day and to-morrow from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

IMMIGRATION LAW

POSSIBILITY OF AGENCIES BEING ABOLISHED

Questioned yesterday regarding the rumour that the 21 agents appointed by the Immigration Department for the issuing of application forms for re-entry permits and residential permits, would be abolished shortly, the Immigration Officer, Mr. R. A. D. Forrest, said that he was not prepared to make any statement until certain details were worked out.

Application had been made to him by some of the agencies for the extension of their activities, said Mr. Forrest, but he had warned them not to make any long-term commitments as they were liable to be closed up at short notice.

Pogradetz Height Taken

A United Press message from the Pogradetz sector states that the Greeks have captured an important mountain to the west of Pogradetz and are consolidating their advance. Greek artillery prevented the Italians from fortifying their positions. The Italians did not attempt a counter-attack on Tuesday and the Greeks remained inactive.—United Press.

Greeks Take Kilsura?

Frontier reports state that the Greeks captured Kilsura at 9.30 a.m. to-day.—United Press.

Athens Denies Capture

Athens, Dec. 18. A military spokesman denied to-day that either Tepelini or Kilsura had yet been captured.—United Press.

Clear Path To Berat

Athens, Dec. 18. The Greeks are smashing onward despite snow drifts and blizzards. It is said that the most important fighting is around Kilsura where the Italians are retreating from the Skivovik Mountains.

A spokesman to-day attributed the "remarkable resistance" of the Italians to strong reinforcements 10 miles east of Tepelini. However, the Greeks, by a bayonet charge and hand-to-hand fighting, had dislodged these.

Kilsura is the last important fortified position between Kilsura and Berat, 20 miles to the north, and is a major supply junction.—United Press.

Evacuation of Tepelini

Athens, Dec. 18. The important towns of Chiturna and Tepelini in Southern Albania are now being evacuated by the Italians who are leaving behind large quantities of materials which have been accumulating for the Italians for several months.—Reuter.

German Help At Hand

New York, Dec. 18. About 50,000 German troops are concentrated at Naples and Bari in Italy with huge quantities of war material, according to messages received here from Belgrade. It is claimed that the reports are from a reliable source. Whether the troops are intended for use in Libya or Albania is not known.—Reuter.

Chinese Helps Bomber Fund

The South China Morning Post yesterday received from Mr. Ho Kom-tong the following letter, with accompanying cheque, for the Bomber Fund in the hope that it will contribute towards your \$1,500,000 objective by Christmas.

A total of \$1,498,414.14 was reached yesterday by the War Fund inaugurated by the S. C. M. Post, Ltd., with the following donations:

M. C. S. T. Shrapnel Box (2nd donation)	\$14.62
Auxiliary Nurses and V.A.D. Golf Match	53
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Alexander W. S.	50
Mr. D. Buchanan	10
Gordon's, Ltd. (third monthly donation)	10
"N" (further donation)	0.60
Mr. Ho Kom-tong (second donation)	1,000
"Blackout"	3

REFUGEE SOCIAL WELFARE

The Hongkong Refugee and Social Welfare Council gratefully acknowledge the following gifts to their "1941 Appeal Fund":

Swatow Drawn Work Co. (per Mr. Tsoi) \$100; Lient. P. N. Lin, R.A.M.C., \$50; the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, \$50; the Kwong Wah Athletic Association (per Mr. W. J. Brown) \$101. The net proceeds of the football match between Kwong Wah and Hongkong Football Club, played on Saturday, December 7, at the Police Sports Ground, were \$27.50. All other expenses were met by the Kwong Wah Athletic Association. The Council is very grateful to the generous gift to its funds, and especially to Mr. W. J. Brown (President of the Association) who organized the match in all its details; to the Police Sports Board who very kindly lent the ground for this occasion; and to all those who attended or sent donations.

for use in Libya or Albania is not known.—Reuter.

ITALY MAY BE NAZI VICTIM

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The possibility of a Nazi seizure of Italy is discussed in a Times leader to-day, which states: "For two years past and more than ever since the war began Italy has been honeycombed with Nazi agents of every description, known and unknown. The Nazi pre-invasion methods of infiltration and permeation utilised so successfully in Norway and Holland have certainly been practised in Italy."

"In place of the much-canvassed drives against Gibraltar or Constantinople Hitler may seek to reach the Mediterranean by a less devious route. If the Italians do not move quickly against the menace from within—and it is difficult to see from what quarter the initiative can come—they may wake up one morning to find that Italy has become occupied territory and that Mussolini held the rank and status of a Quisling."

Emergency Rice Stock Released

A Necessary Step

That a certain amount of rice, forming part of the reserves held by importers for emergency, has been released by Government for sale locally, was disclosed by Mr. G. S. Kennedy-Skipton, Controller of Food, yesterday.

Mr. Kennedy-Skipton said that the rice which had been released was imported from Indo-China, and it was necessary to allow the importers to dispose of it owing to the danger of deterioration. At the same time it was proposed to use it as a stop gap until other rice could be obtained from places other than Indo-China, where the export of rice had for long been stopped.

Importers, added Mr. Kennedy-Skipton, could only dispose of the rice on the understanding that they would sell it to the retailers for local consumption, thus keeping the retail prices down, and would replace it within a short period from other sources.

The general market position indicated that within three or four weeks, the import rice prices would fall, he said.



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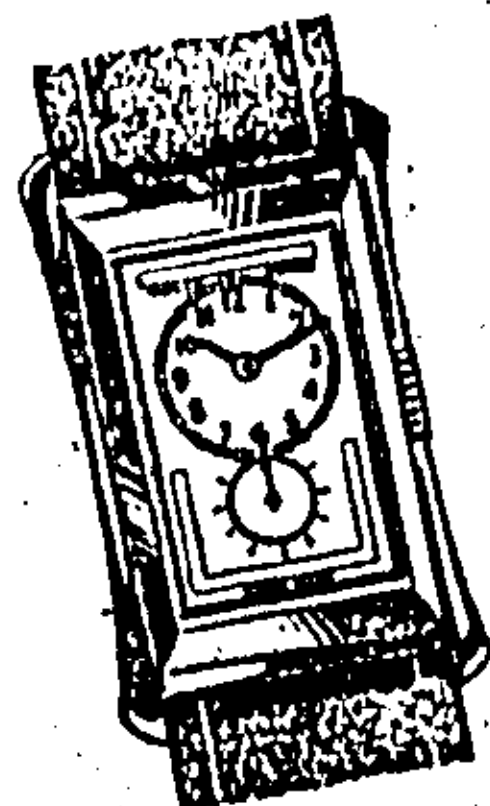
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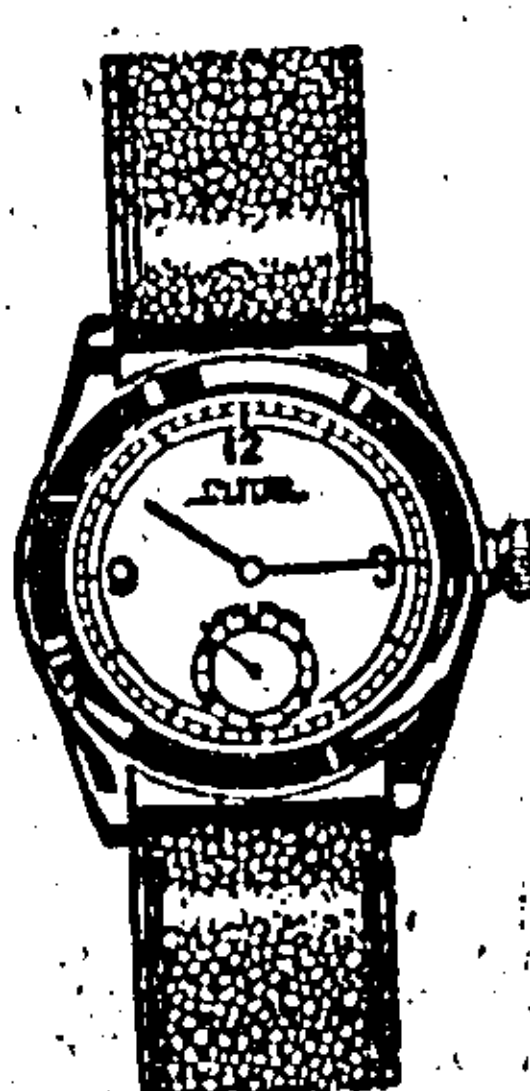
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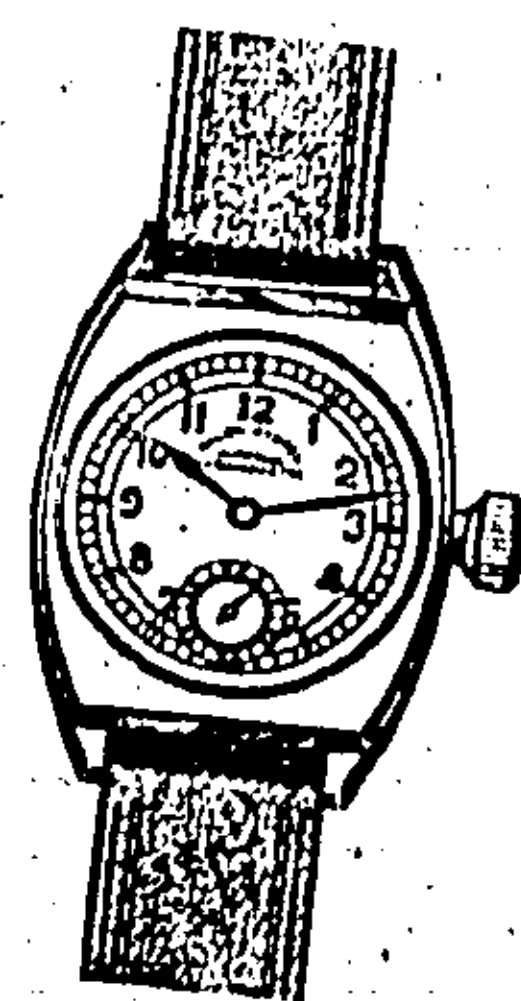
The Rolex Oyster Perpetual
Stainless Steel \$100.00



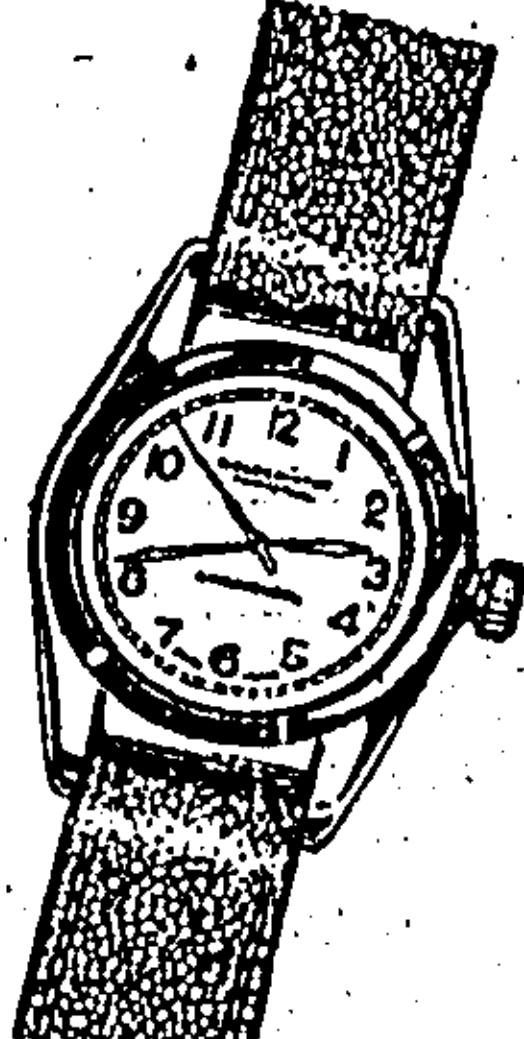
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Stainless Steel \$70.00



The Rolex Oyster Perpetual
With centre seconds
Stainless Steel Case \$145.00
Without Centre Seconds Hand \$135.00



The Rolex Oyster Perpetual
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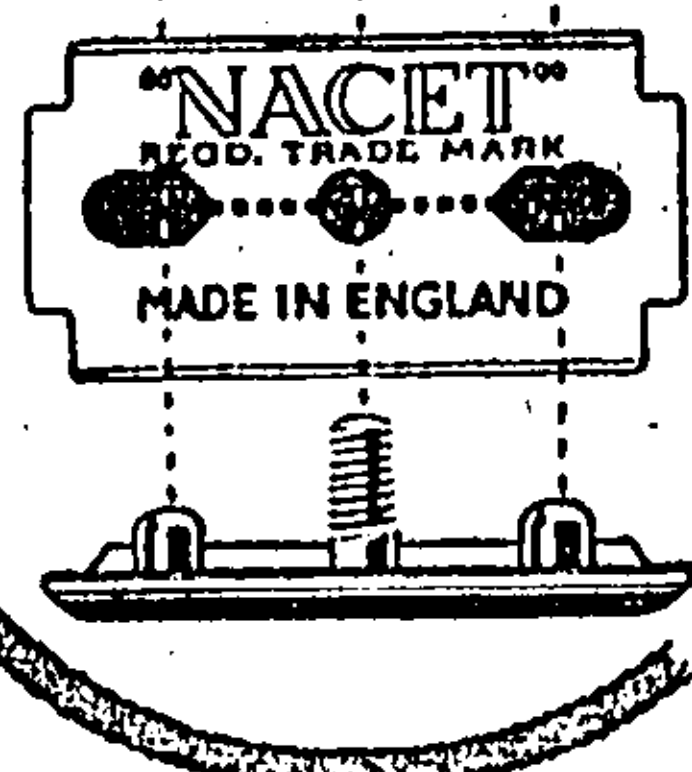
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Empire Sea Routes To Be Better Protected Shortly

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Combating the U-boat menace does not in general present any novel technical problem as it did in the last war, it was stated in authoritative quarters in London to-day in comment on the latest figures of British shipping losses.

THAILAND ARRESTS

Round-Up Of Fifth Columnists

Bangkok, Dec. 18. Two Japanese were arrested on Sunday for photographing prohibited areas.

Their arrest culminates a week's round-up of Fifth Columnists and espionage agents. Eighteen Annamese were arrested at Udorn, 12 at Khonkaen and one at Lao.

A sing-song girl was apprehended at Chongrai and has been charged with espionage on behalf of the French.

The Japanese have been released on bail. A fortnight ago two other Japanese were arrested when taking photographs of the Ministry for Defence offices.—United Press.

Indo-China Round-Up

Hanoi, Dec. 18. French airmen returning from bombing raids in Thailand declare that last night the flames from fires caused by bombings could be seen for more than 100 miles.

More Communists have been arrested in Cochinchina, Cholon and Longuyen, following the distribution of leaflets and posters by the Anti-Imperialist Party attacking the never-ending appetite of Japanese imperialism and blaming the French for appeasing Japan.

One leaflet declared "Indo-China is still supposed to be French but actually it is already Japanese because Indo-China's policies."—United Press.

British Delegation Well Received

Montevideo, Dec. 18. Toasting the prosperity of the "Glorious British Empire," Dr. Guan, Foreign Minister, at a reception to the British Trade Mission to-day said all hoped for the "final triumph of moral chivalrous virtues always shown by the British people."

Speaking at a Chamber of Commerce lunch to the Mission, Dr. Charlone, Vice-President, said Uruguayans sympathized with the ideals for which Britain was fighting. Popular enthusiasm for the Mission is unabated.—Reuter.

INDIAN VOLUNTEERS

Shanghai, Dec. 18. Indian residents in Shanghai, mostly Hindus, have decided to form a volunteer body of 1,000 members to further the interests of their country.

They held a meeting last week under the direction of Mr. A. S. Sahay, a Congress leader living in Japan.—International.

It was pointed out that the sole problem was the shortage of escort craft, which was now being remedied by the inflow of new naval construction and of 40 American destroyers. Although some of the latter were already in service, the number was probably still small as it was believed that their armament was being improved before they were assigned to escort duty. The British Government had now decided to increase the number of aircraft available for defence of sea routes.

Declaring that civilians must do all in their power to ease the burden on British shipping, the Daily Telegraph says that the lack of a sufficient number of escorts of the right kind and aloft is the sole cause of the heavy mercantile losses. Both the Navy and the Air Force have been stretched out thin to cover vast distances and a multiplicity of demands.

"As their numbers increase," adds the Telegraph, "we may be confident that the revival of the attack on shipping will be defeated as decisively as the former assaults."—Reuter.

French Warship

Fort de France, Martinique, Dec. 17. The French aircraft carrier Bearn, which has been anchored here since the armistice between France and Germany, loaded 600 tons of fuel oil from a Venezuelan source to-day while another 400 tons is to be taken to the island of Guadeloupe.—United Press.

EASTERN OFFENSIVE

British Raid On Kenya Frontier

London, Dec. 18. The renewal of offensive patrolling in the Kenya frontier districts, which was mentioned in yesterday's Cairo communique, anticipated the announcement of a successful raid the details of which are contained in a Nairobi communique received in London this morning.

The scene of the raid was the important Fort Elwak, situated on the frontier of Italian Somaliland at the junction of four roads usable in dry weather by motor transport.

Announcing the raid the communique states: "Our forces included South African and Gold Coast units with armoured fighting vehicles and artillery. The South African Air Force co-operated and dropped two and half tons of bombs. At least 25 Italians, including several officers, and 50 colonial infantry were captured, with at least three guns, some machine-guns, and large quantities of stores and ammunition. Fifty of the enemy were killed, our casualties being very slight."

An air attack was made by one enemy aircraft, which was driven by our fighters. The enemy plane jettisoned its bombs on sighting our fighters. Early on Tuesday morning one Caproni was brought down by our planes.—British Wireless.

SHANGHAI MURDER

Outspoken Criticism Against Chungking

Shanghai, Dec. 18. Scathing denunciation of acts of terrorism allegedly employed by Chungking was made to-day by the British-owned North China Daily News in an editorial comment on the brutal murder of Judge Edouard d'Hooghe, by declaring, "a Government which seeks to further its own ends by criminal methods is unworthy of its name."

Pointing out that Shanghai has been "profoundly shocked" and is "highly indignant" that such a crime should have been committed, the North China Daily News declared, "it is being freely stated that the French official was killed for motives of revenge for the part he played" in aiding in the transfer of the Second District Court in the French Concession to Nanking.

Stressing that no other motive can be possible, the paper declared, "but being the case, it is not difficult to determine who may be responsible for this dastardly outrage." The paper added that the only conclusion which can be drawn is that the murder was committed by adherents of the Chungking regime.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Hongkong Stock Exchange Official Summary, issued yesterday says: The market is quiet with a firm undertone. The following dividends on Philippine Gold shares are reported.

Masbates .01 ctvos.	
I. X. L. .02 ctvos.	
Buyers	
H.K. Banks \$1.305	
Canton Ins. \$1.00	
Union Ins. \$3.95	
Wharves \$2.	
Docks "O" \$18.10	
Docks "N" \$17.40	
Providents \$5.00	
Hotels \$3.50	
Realities \$3.75	
Lights "O" C.D. \$7.40	
Lights "N" C.D. \$7.05	
Sandakan Lights \$11.20	
Ropes \$7	
Dairy Farms \$10.15	
Watsons \$10.40	
Entertainments \$7	
Constructions "O" \$1.60	
Sellers	
Realities \$3.95	
Electricity "O" \$40.50	
Vibro Piling \$7.70	
H.K. Banks \$1.305	
Providents \$5.00	
Trams \$17.70	
Telephones "O" \$25.75	
Watsons \$10.60	



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Under the distinguished patronage of Hon. Commissioner of Police, President of the Kowloon Football Club and Chairman, Hongkong War Effort Committee

Grand Softball Matches

will be held at the KOWLOON FOOTBALL CLUB on BOXING DAY at 10.30 a.m.

K.F.C. Members under 40 years

K.F.C. Members over 40 years

THE LADIES

KOWLOON POLICE

Entrance Fee: 50 cents

Total Proceeds to the Bomber Fund Roll up and Help to Sock Adolf.



SAN FRANCISCO & LOS ANGELES via Honolulu.

Nitta Maru Thursday, 19th Dec.
Kamakura Maru Tuesday, 14th Jan.

SEATTLE & VANCOUVER (Starts from Kobe)

Hikawa Maru Saturday, 31st Dec.
SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Hilo & San Francisco
Rakuyo Maru (starts from Kobe) Tuesday, 24th Dec.
NEW YORK via Panama.

SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila.

Atsuta Maru Monday, 30th Dec.
HAIPHONG, SAIGON & MADRAS
Hakodate Maru Friday, 10th Jan.
(Cargo accepted for Haiphong & Saigon)
BOMBAY via Singapore & Colombo.

Kasima Maru Saturday, 28th Dec.

RANGOON & CALCUTTA via Singapore.

Matumoto Maru Saturday, 28th Dec.

Kobe & YOKOHAMA.

Nitta Maru Thursday, 19th Dec.
Kikano Maru Tuesday, 24th Dec.
Kamakura Maru Tuesday, 14th Jan.

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SS "President Pierce" JAN. 3
SS "President Taft" JAN. 17

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SS "President Garfield" FED. 8
TO MANILA

SS "President Pierce" DEC. 27
SS "President Taft" JAN. 10
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JOSEPH SCHILDKRAUT • MARY NASH • JANE DARWELL
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THE FIRST PICTURES OF THE ILL-FATED
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SIDELIGHTS IN THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN—ETC.—ETC.

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A Warner Bros. Picture "THE ROARING TWENTIES"

ORIENTAL

LAST 4 TIMES TO-DAY

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This picture demonstrates the mechanism by which hundreds of hardened criminals are turned loose each year to prey on helpless society, a true story of crime detection by J. Edgar Hoover.

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OUTER DEFENCES OF BARDIA

→ FROM PAGE ONE

view and made their decisions in a manner which would have horrified old-time conventional generals but which obviously had the full blessing of General Sir Archibald Wavell. Instead of waiting to mop up each point of resistance, our armoured forces crashed right through in great encircling movements on the theory that a demoralised and surprised enemy force, knowing itself cut off and subjected to continual bombardments, could safely be left to surrender.

Enemy Methods

Interesting discoveries were made regarding Italian Army methods. The Italians seem to be very short of metals but show considerable talent for rapid road-making, organising hospitals and foodstuffs, and water supplies are efficiently stored at Abugub.

Their intelligence service is good and their organisation is carefully thought out. It was only when they came to close quarters with the British troops that they broke, and once the spirit of surrender began among them it spread like a disease.

As one British officer expressed it, "the Italian Army would make an excellent supply column for another army doing the actual fighting."

Our Superior Tanks

Moreover, Italian tanks lost all battles with British tanks partly owing to the dashing spirit of our tank commanders and crews and partly owing to the fact, in some cases, of superior armament.

Many Italian tanks have "Achilles heel" in their rear, where the armament is weakest, and this was quickly discovered by our tanks which repeatedly outflanked the Italians and shot them up from the back.

But in the last analysis, the reason for the British victory undoubtedly was the simple fact that British and Empire troops knew what they were fighting for while the Italians did not.

Long Line of Retreat

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The information that Italian formations are retreating towards Derna is interesting inasmuch as Derna is about 100 miles west of Tobruk, which is itself 60 miles west of Bardia. It seems, therefore, that the Italians are retreating about 160 miles from Bardia, which is now the scene of the main fighting on land.

The object of the present operations seems to be to isolate Bardia and then to mop it up in the way that was so successful in the case of Sidi Barrani and Sollum. This would be a very neatly round off the operations which began at Sidi Barrani.

Indian's War Gifts

Minesweeping Trawler

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The Maharajah of Baroda has made a further war contribution of £50,000, according to the All-India radio. The sum will be used for the purchase of a trawler for the Indian Navy for mine-sweeping and anti-submarine duties. The vessel will be named Baroda. The Maharajah has already given a similar sum for fighter planes for the R.A.F.

American Dentists' Gift To Britain

A mobile operating room for the treatment of facial and jaw injuries, given by the American dental profession, was presented in London recently to Sir Harold Gillies, the plastic surgeon. Sir Harold is facial surgery adviser to the Ministry of Health emergency hospital scheme. The operating room will be manned by a plastic surgeon, a dental surgeon, dental mechanic and an anaesthetist.

Canadian Minister's Escape

→ FROM PAGE ONE

took flashlight photographs of the liner.

Tribute To Seamen

Mr Howe added that it was due to the magnificent seamanship of Captain Reid in getting lifeboats away in the dangerous seas and to the skill of the captain of the rescuing ship, that the casualty list was so light.

The crews of both ships behaved marvellously and the passenger's behaviour was grand. There was not a trace of panic. Explaining why his party was perhaps more comfortably dressed than the other rescued passengers, Mr Howe said that their womenfolk made them take a small case containing lumbermen's trousers, jersey, overshoes and a torch in case they were torpedoed and these cases were the only things they had time to grab when roused from sleep.

Captain's Farewell

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—How Captain Reid, commanding the Western Prince, went down with his ship, although he could easily have saved his life after the liner was torpedoed, was told by the Chief Engineer.

The Chief Engineer said that when he got the signal "Abandon Ship," he found Captain Reid by a life-boat. Urged to get in, the Captain walked away to the bridge and sounded the siren as the ship went down.

Mr C. D. Howe, the Canadian Minister of Munitions, said that five life-boats got away safely but the sixth overturned, and it was then that the casualties occurred.

Newly-Weds

The survivors include the Mother Superior of a convent in China and a young novice. The Mother Superior said that both had also survived terrific machine-gunning on the Yangtze.

Three babies, who were hoisted to the deck of the rescue ship, were also among the rescued. The missing include a honeymoon couple who had returned to their cabin to collect their presents.

Message To Premier

OTTAWA, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The Prime Minister's office has received a message from Mr C. D. Howe saying "Life-boat overturned while attempting to transfer occupants to the rescue ship in heavy sea."

News of the death of Mr Gordon Scott and others has shocked Government officials here.

Vigorous Warning To Spain On Coup

→ FROM PAGE ONE

Government carefully to reconsider the advisability of continuing the supply of food through the British blockade to a government which treats British subjects in this "high-handed and aggressive manner."

Mr Butler said that he had used the words "with all the consequences flowing therefrom" to indicate the gravity with which the Government view the latest event.

Mr O. E. Baker (Lab.) asked that if the negotiations were not successful, Government would bear in mind the fact that oil which might be stopped was still being allowed to reach Spain.

Mr Butler: "Everything will be borne in mind."

STOCK EXCHANGE

Oil Shares Attractive

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—On the Stock Exchange to-day oil shares continued to attract interest, the outstanding feature being the rise of Anglo-Egyptians from 47s. 6d. to 52s. 6d. on good buying orders.

Otherwise the markets experienced a quiet day and prices often drifted lower for want of fresh support. Industrials were irregular and foreign bonds were neglected but the previous levels were well maintained. Indian loans hardened while Kafirs met little Cape offering. Coppers, however, were again supported. Wall Street was irregularly higher.

GREEKS MEETING RESISTANCE

→ FROM PAGE ONE

Porto Palermo but are being repulsed with heavy losses. Yesterday, using captured Italian mortars, the Greeks broke up the Italian rear guard and forced them back on to Porto Palermo.

Report Confirmed

ROME, Dec. 18 (UP).—It has been confirmed that Porto Palermo is still in Italian hands.

Albanian War Position. LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Italian resistance in Albania still seems to be strongest in the coastal area and they appear to be still holding on to Porto Palermo which is under Greek shell-fire.

Communications with Valona along the coastal road have been the object of the latest R.A.F. attacks.

Despite fierce storms on Tuesday our planes bombed a minor transport column. It was not possible to observe the full effect of the attack but a number of bombs fell near the column and the vehicles were subsequently machine-gunned. All our planes returned safely.

Tepelini is under heavy Greek shell-fire but has not yet been taken. Very wintry weather prevails in the northern sector with deep snow at 2,000 feet and frequently 18 degrees of frost. Despite this the Greeks have taken two small hamlets slightly in front of their previous line and many more prisoners and war materials have been captured.

Duce's Propaganda

The anxiety of Mussolini over the effect of events in Albania and the Western Desert on the morale of the Italian people is shown in Italian propaganda. One line is to attempt to cheer the people up by reciting reverses in other wars. Rome Radio spoke of inevitable ordeals and points out that five years ago things were not going so well in Abyssinia.

On the subject of the war in Albania, Rome Radio said that time is on the side of the Italians.

Defeatists are severely punished. Rome Radio says that the good Italian gets his news from the communiques, that may be but if so he is not very well informed because even now he will know nothing about the capture of Sullum and Fort Capuzzo by the British.

Mannheim Again Raided

→ FROM PAGE ONE

of bed and going to shelters which are lacking in heating arrangements. According to evidence available in London, the discomfort and harsh regulations are having a greater effect on German morale than the fear of bombing.

LATE NEWS

Former Hongkong Resident Dies

The death has occurred in England of Mr Granville Murray, a former Manager of the Hongkong Electric Co. at the age of 50.

Mr Murray acted as Assistant Manager for the Company from 1922 to 1928.

The flag of the Hongkong Club is being flown to-day at half mast as a mark of respect of his death.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE

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Screen Play by Hugo Butler

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D. CYCLOPS

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Directed by Ernest Schoedsack • A Paramount Picture

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OUTER DEFENCES OF BARDIA PIERCED BY BRITISH TROOPS "Tough Nut To Crack" Declares Spokesman

Italian Somaliland Raided

Special to the "Telegraph"

NAIROBI, Kenya, Dec. 18 (UP).—A communique issued to-day states that the British killed 50 Italian troops and captured 75 in a sudden attack on El Uah to-day, in an action in which the South African Air Force dropped more than two tons of bombs.

*El Uah is on the very border of Italian Somaliland and Kenya to the north-east of the British protectorate. It is a considerable distance from the coast and is south of Abyssinia.

The attack is the first of its kind in this particular area though further to the north the British have made raids on Italian forts in south Abyssinia.

MANNHEIM AGAIN RAIDED

R.A.F. Start Fresh Fires

Special to the "Telegraph"

LONDON, Dec. 18 (UP).—The Air Ministry announced that R.A.F. bombers again attacked Mannheim's industrial targets last night, despite the bad weather.

Some fires which were started during Monday night's raid could be seen still burning, and several fresh fires were started. Other aircraft attacked aerodromes and ports on the Channel coast.

NAZI SHIP SUNK

M.T.B.'s In Action

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

LONDON, Dec. 18 (UP).—An Admiralty communique states British motor torpedo boats to-day sank a large enemy supply ship of between 6,000 and 7,000 tons off the Belgian coast.

U-Boat Attack on Convoy?
NEW YORK, Dec. 18 (UP).—The possibility of a German submarine having attacked a British convoy is seen in the interception of distress signals by the Mackay Radio Company from two vessels about 400 miles north of Scotland.

The calls came from the Dutch steamer Penderich saying she had been torpedoed, and also from the Norwegian steamer Dailon, revealing that she had been attacked. The former vessel said she only had one lifeboat left.

Distress signals were also intercepted reporting that the steamer Napier Star was torpedoed at 1.35 p.m. E.S.T. in latitude 58.58 N. longitude 23.13 W. which is about 600 miles at sea. The Napier Star is an ex-Blue Funnel liner of 1,200 tons.

China War Relief

Big U. S. Contributions

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (UP).—The American Red Cross has announced that American relief to the China war victims reached \$1,000,000 to-day.

Twenty thousand vitamin bone tablets were sent by Clipper from San Francisco yesterday. Two more Clipper shipments will be made on December 24 and 31, while an additional 100,000 tablets will be shipped by the President Taft next Friday.

The Red Cross office said that wheat, rice, drugs, surgical gauze and clothing to the value of \$200,000 have already reached China.

Former Hongkong Resident Dies

The death has occurred in England of Mr. Granville Murray, a former Manager of the Hongkong Electric Co. at the age of 60.

Mr. Murray acted as Assistant Manager for the Company from 1922 to 1928.

The flag of the Hongkong Club is being flown to-day at half mast as a mark of respect of his death.

CAIRO, DEC. 18 (UP).—IT IS LEARNED THAT BRITISH TROOPS HAVE BROKEN THROUGH AT SOME POINTS OF THE FORTIFIED PERIMETER AROUND BARDIA, BUT HARD FIGHTING CONTINUES, AS THE ATTACKING FORCES ARE ENCOUNTERING STRONG DEFENCE TRENCHES, WIRE ENTANGLEMENTS AND CONCRETE PILL BOXES IN THE WHOLE AREA.

Conflicting reports come from Bardia where the Italians are hard pressed, but are putting up a stiff fight.

According to the British military spokesman, Bardia is a "fairly tough nut to crack."

It is believed that the town is defended by one division which has been there since the start of the offensive, and which has probably been reinforced by units which have escaped out of Egypt.

A general headquarters communique to-day contented itself by declaring that operations in the Bardia area continue.

RETREATING TO TOBRUK

CAIRO, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Latest despatches indicate that part of the Italian division stationed at Bardia before the British attack is retreating towards Tobruk.

All Aid For Selassie

Revolt In Abyssinia

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).

Information regarding conditions in Abyssinia is difficult to obtain but a movement for revolt against the Italians appears to be making progress.

The Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. R. A. Butler, stated in reply to a question in the House of Commons that it was British policy to extend to ex-emperor Haile Selassie as well as to elements within Abyssinia willing to bear arms against the enemy, all possible assistance in their fight for freedom.

Ickes On Axis

NEW YORK, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Mr. Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, speaking at the Columbia University, said that the dictators proposed to cripple the United States by sabotage, propaganda and sowing suspicion between the United States and Latin America.

Well Established In Libya

("REUTERS") SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, Dec. 18.—Ten days after the start of Britain's desert offensive, British troops are well established inside Italian Libya.

I have been touring a dusty desert outpost where the army's front line administration is carried out in camouflaged tents flapping in the wind, travel by jeep and by foot, new dugouts, which until recently, were the pride of the Italian Army.

Brilliant patrol and other military intelligence work contributed to the British victory. For instance, it was owing to the fact that a patrol had previously at great risk located mines outside the camp of Nibelwa that Indian infantry was able to assist the tanks assailing it without greater loss of life.

Careful planning of the whole campaign was supplemented at the right moment by dash and initiative on the field of action.

Swift Decision

After taking Sidi Barrani, the commanders on the spot took a swift

BARDIA AGAIN BOMBED

Troops Machine Gunned

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

CAIRO, Dec. 18 (UP).—Today's communique issued by the R.A.F. general headquarters says that despite heavy rains on the Western Desert yesterday, R.A.F. planes attacked Bardia during the day, as well as the night, and started three large fires in the encampment, as well as damaging large quantities of motor transport.

Reconnaissance flights showed that the enemy is retreating towards Derna. Our fighter machines gunned the retreating troops between Bardia and Tobruk.

The communique said that the aerodrome at Derna was bombed on Tuesday night. In Albania, R.A.F. bombers attacked the motor transport between Santi Quaranta and Valona in a fierce snow storm. Port Sudan was bombed by enemy bombers, one damage being caused. All British planes returned safely from all operations.

Canadian Minister's Escape

Thrilling Story Of Torpedoing

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).

The Hon. Mr. C. D. Howe, Canadian Minister of Munitions, whose fate was for some time in doubt after the sinking by a Nazi submarine in the Atlantic of the liner Western Prince on which he was a passenger, has landed at a west coast port with 52 other passengers and 99 members of the crew of the liner.

Other survivors of the Canadian Government Mission include Mr. E. P. Taylor (Director-General of Munitions Production) and Colonel W. C. Woodburn (Executive Assistant to the Ministry).

The Hon. Mr. Gordon W. Scott, Financial Adviser to Mr. Howe's department, lost his life.

The Captain of the Western Prince is also lost.

Mr. Howe, in an interview, said: "We heard the Captain give three hearty cheers on the siren in token of farewell."

The Captain's steward, named Franks, lost his life when he went back to the liner to collect Spitfire fund money amounting to about £100 collected by the crew.

Crushed Against Ship

Mr. Howe said that Mr. Scott was in the sixth boat.

Those who saw him said that he was crushed against the ship's side and temporarily relaxed his grip of the rope, after which he disappeared in the darkness.

Howe described his death as a great loss to Canada. He said that they had stayed up until midnight to see "Friday the 13th" safely out, and he was in bed when the ship was hit.

Before the ship sank, the U-boat

THE WAR FRONT IN ALBANIA



GREEKS MEETING RESISTANCE

Hard Fighting In Albania

Special to the "Telegraph"

STRUGA, Dec. 18 (UP).—Frontier reports declare that the Greeks have advanced their right wing along the main Tepelina-Valona road and are pursuing the Italians, who are now about a mile and a half north of Tepelina. However, they are meeting strong Italian rearguard resistance.

The Greeks captured 160 Italians at Palasa, south of Valona.

It is also reported that the Greeks have reached the Tomor mountains which control the town of Berat in the Klisura-Tepelina sectors.

Peril of Avalanches

ATHENS, Dec. 18 (UP).—A new peril faces both the Italian and Greek mountain forces—avalanches. Reports from the central and northern fronts describe that the repercussions of the heavy guns is bringing down hundreds of tons of snow and rocks, sweeping men, guns and mules with them.

The report said that crack Italian forces are counter-attacking from

TURN to Back Page, Column 5

No Raids On London

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—To-day (Wednesday) has been another raidless day.

A German bomber was shot down off Dover this afternoon by British fighters without loss to themselves, according to an Air Ministry communique, which adds that otherwise there is nothing to report.

Indo-China-Thai War Called "Childlike"

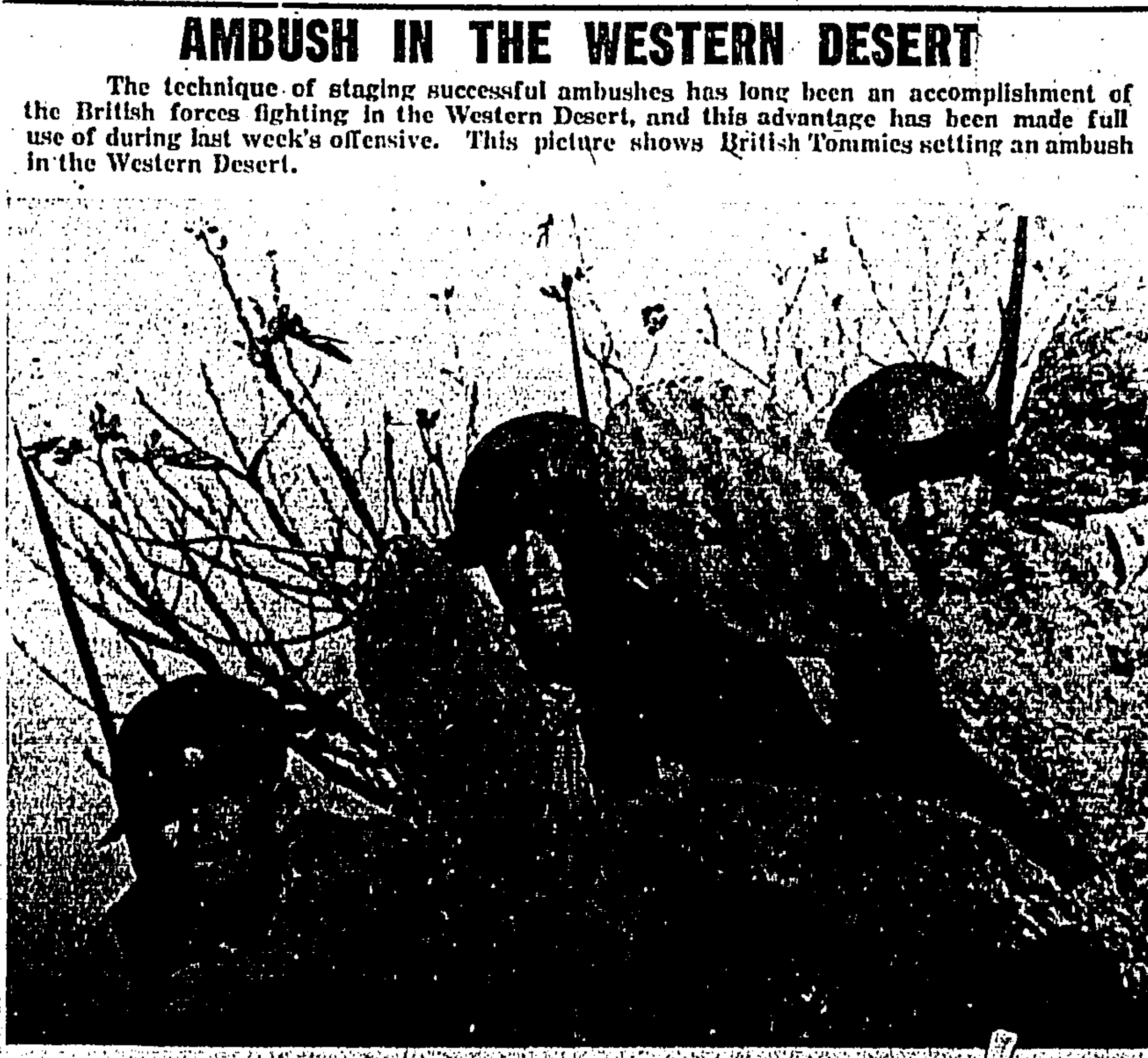
Special to the "Telegraph"

HANOI, Dec. 18 (UP).—The French have taken the attitude that the border war is stiffening, with French artillery firing an additional 25 shells towards Muk from Savannakhet this morning, making a total of 50 shells against 25 from the Thailand side.

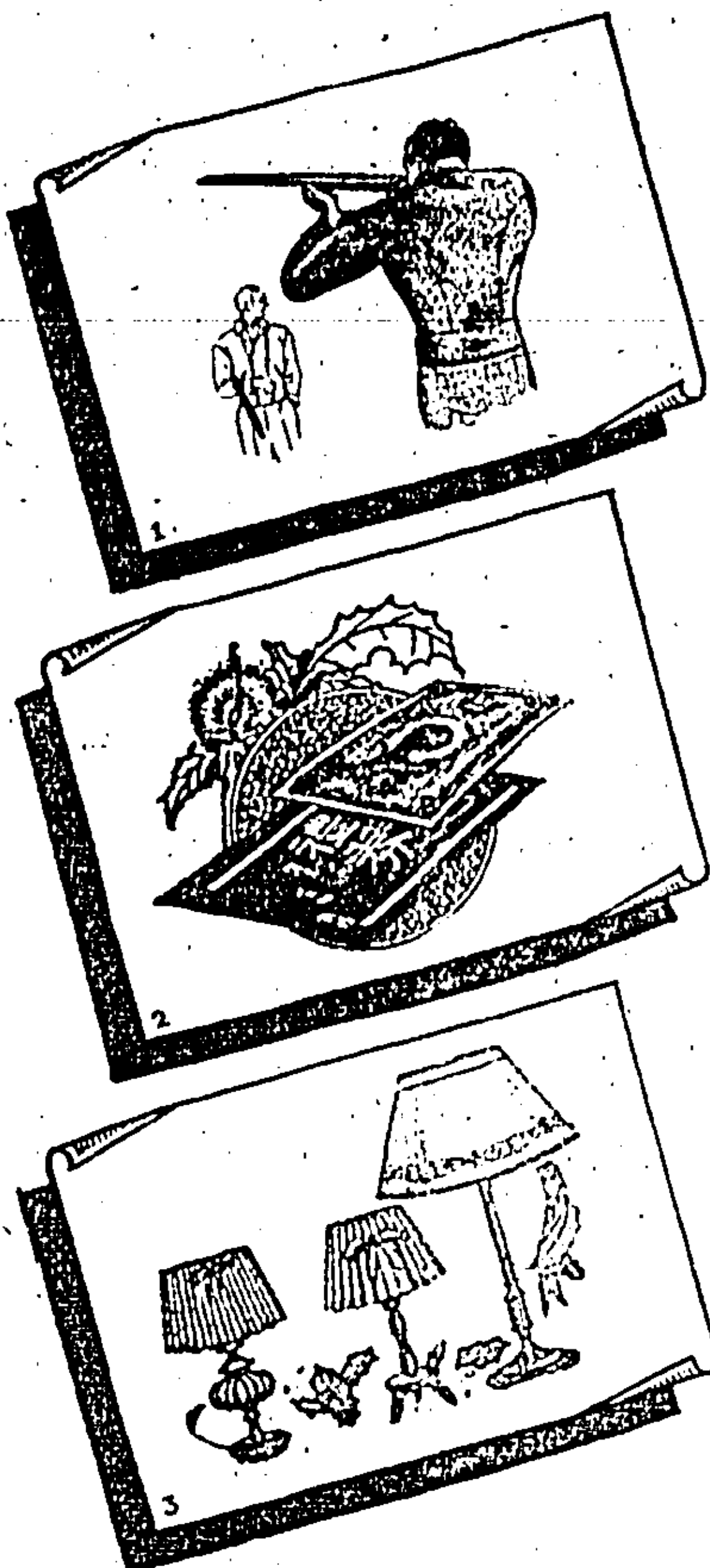
Even the French laugh at this and her baby who were taken off by junk to the mainland and are now being held as hostages in that last Sunday, natives, after murdering M. Olivier, the French keeper of the Poulouli light-house, kidnapped Mrs. Olivier

Rescue parties have been unsuccessful in their searches for the pair.

TURN to Back Page, Column 5



GIFT Suggestions



It's fun to give something out of the ordinary, something the others didn't think of—and here are a few suggestive hints.

1. If he's a man of action, give him an action fit coat in suede or capeskin, lined with rayon body and sleeves. It's a gift of gifts for sportsmen.
2. If you're not sure of the best way to strike his or her fancy, play safe and send a Wing On gift certificate. The recipient presents the certificate to any Wing On store in China, chooses the things he or she wants, to the full value of the certificate.
3. Lamps are delightful presents for the house. The cheery glow of a tastefully chosen lamp will be a constant reminder of the thoughtful giver. We have a score of interesting new models in stock.

THE WING ON CO., LTD.

The Complete Christmas Store



Our "Yuletide Festivities"

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GALA DINNER DANCES & XMAS LUNCHEON

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CHRISTMAS EVE — Tues., Dec. 24th — Gala Dinner Dance Till 3 a.m.
Dinner \$8. After dinner cover charge \$4.
BOXING NIGHT — Thurs., Dec. 26th — Dinner Dance Till 2 a.m.
Dinner \$7. After dinner cover charge \$3.

PENINSULA HOTEL

PHONE 58081

CHRISTMAS NIGHT — Wed., Dec. 25th — Gala Dinner Dance Till 2 a.m.
Dinner \$7. After dinner cover charge \$3.

REPULSE BAY HOTEL

PHONE 27775

CHRISTMAS DAY — Wed., Dec. 25th — Special Luncheon 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Per cover \$4.50.

Have you made your reservations?

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A REMINDER TO BOOK YOUR TABLES NOW.

THE HONGKONG & SHANGHAI HOTELS, LTD.

Count the "TELEGRAPHS" everywhere



ONCE AMERICAN — British gunners aboard one of the 50 destroyers turned over to England by U. S. sight American Browning gun for anti-aircraft use. Destroyers are now being refitted in British ports.

DEFEATISM RIFE IN GERMANY

A PICTURE of a weary nation in Germany is painted by Richard Boyer, correspondent of the New York newspaper "P.M." in the first of a series of articles entitled "Victorious Germany—Land of Gloom," which he has written since returning from Germany.

"At the crest of the wave of German success on June 28, I arrived in Munich. Instead of celebrating, the people were unmistakably sad and quiet, and weary of the victory bells which rang from noon and acquired the sound of a funeral dirge when one looked at the pinched and tired faces of the Germans.

"There were no cheers when the troops passed by. When I expressed surprise at this, one German impatiently said, 'We celebrated once in 1914.'

I found that the Nazis take it for granted that Germany will invade Russia in 1941, and also that high officials believe that war with the United States is inevitable.

"I found food so deficient in quality and quantity," continues Mr. Boyer, "that army doctors declare that new recruits show signs of weakness until they are built up by army diet."

"The most surprising development in Germany is the dead listlessness which is spreading like a plague and infecting increasing numbers with defeatism. If the contagion is not halted Germany itself, even in victory, may go the way of France."

"For ten days before leaving Berlin I sat in bomb-proof shelters. Never have I seen a people with less spirit. It was not fear, but something deeper, which is what gave the mild bombings of Berlin an importance out of all proportion to the damage done."

They Fear Winter

"Sometimes I would say to them: 'Cheer up, the war will soon be over, and they would reply: 'Oh, no, America and we will have another terrible winter.'

"Then I'd say to them: 'Your papers say you are defeating Britain, to which they replied contemptuously, 'Oh, the papers.'"

"When I left Germany it was like leaving a prison. Many Germans called and asked me to perform small services for them when I got outside. They begged for food, for stamps. One woman said: 'Take me with you. Hide me in your trunk, do anything!'

"Hitler Is Worried"

"More than once Germans said, referring to Hitler's last speech: 'He's worried, you can tell that by the way he spoke.'"

"Official Germany is also worried. They predicted that the war would be over in three weeks. This phase proved a boomerang and now the same officials are explaining that Germany is fighting the world's strongest Empire, necessitating a hard struggle."

"For the first time Germans began to feel that Hitler has slipped up. Every day of British bombing causes more Germans to say: 'It will never be over. We shall have a terrible winter—no food or heat, and bombing every night.'

Thanks For The Buggy Ride!

Latest in sit-down strikes (from America, of course). Mrs. Nellie Kaminsky, of Philadelphia, parked herself in her husband's car and would not get out till he had promised to pay her \$225 a week. She took her six-month-old son John along with her. Neighbours fed her, resisted attempts to move the car. She stayed there for three days. She won. But her husband is unemployed, and still isn't sure that he'll keep it up.

Chief Petty Officer And Tobacco

Frederick Stanley Toms, of Moor View, Honory, Plymstock, retired from the Navy after twenty-two years' service with an exemplary record.

He was given a chief petty officer's pension, and they were glad to make him a storekeeper in the naval barracks.

He bought a £300 car. A month ago he was driving it near his house when two men hailed him.

What happened then was described by Mr. B. M. Stephenson at Plympton (Devon) Police Court recently when Frederick Stanley Toms stood in the dock. The two men, he said, were Customs officers, of the special inquiry staff from London.

They asked Toms if he had any goods on which the proper duty had not been paid, and he said he had. They found packages containing Navy tobacco and periques (tobacco made up like a sausage and wrapped in heaslan).

House Searched

The officers told him they proposed to search his house and he raised no objection. They found more tobacco there.

In a shed fitted up as a tobacco factory were a bench showing signs of many cutting operations, fourteen partly-made periques, a damping board saturated with nicotine, and other things.

Another examination of the car disclosed under the back seat a concealed tray, empty but for a scrap of loose tobacco stem. Toms denied he had ever carried tobacco in it.

This car has now been seized, and will be retained by the Customs," said Mr. Stephenson.

The officers also examined a car Toms had previously owned. They found that a box which was in the garage showed signs of having been carried under its bonnet.

"This is a very serious case," said Mr. Stephenson, "as Toms was taking advantage of his position to get tobacco out of the dockyard without paying duty."

Toms pleaded guilty. His counsel said he had already been punished by the loss of his job and his car.

But he was fined £225 on the Customs charges, and a further £5 on a summons for being in unlawful possession of Government stores.

WAR OFFICE COLLECTS 4,600 MOTOR-CYCLES

In three weeks, 4,000 solo motor-cycles and 600 combination machines asked for by the War Office have been supplied and are all at work on national defence.

Half the number came from private owners and the others from trade stocks.

HEAD LIBRARIAN SLEEPS WITH

His 500,000 Books

IN the quiet of St James's-square there sits a man who, bombed out of his own home in the suburbs of London, has the harassing job of preserving intact the 500,000 books in the world's most famous subscription library—the London Library.

Mr C. J. Purnell, librarian, has been there for 35 years. He was deputy-librarian when, in the last war, an A.A. shell crashed into the building—and fell on the one spot where it could do virtually no damage.

Mr Purnell rose from his desk and fetched the old shell out of a cupboard when I called on him, writes a London correspondent. Meanwhile he went on telling me how, when finally he had to leave his own house, he and his wife came to live in a flat behind the London Library.

Many of the 500,000 books in the library are irreplaceable. About 150 of the rarest have been sent to a safe place. But around the hundreds of thousands which remain—beautiful, expensive, rare books—the bombs fall nightly.

On The Job

Mr Purnell now sleeps on the premises. Two members of his staff are always on duty in the building. They take it in turns to guard from fire by night the books which they cherish by day.

The library needs all the care they give it. On Tuesday a shower of incendiary bombs fell dangerously near. One fell on the roof of the flat which Mr Purnell and his wife occupy.

Every morning the staff gather up the pieces of shrapnel and shell splinters which have fallen on the roof. One freak splinter dived into a bay, bounced off a sill, and crashed through a window. It did no damage. I was shown the largest missile which has hit the library during this war—a sturdy piece of steel which became embedded in the roof.

Bright Idea

One excellent notion Mr Purnell has had—he has covered the glass skylights over the central stack of books with a number of sheet steel shelves which were not being used. It is a clever device to protect sloping skylights.

Mr Purnell smiled when I asked him if he did not feel a shade harassed under the weight of his newest responsibilities. "It's no good worrying about it," is all he said.

He should know. When a bomb demolished a wall hundreds of feet away from his home, a 7lb. chunk of brickwork, soured by the house and crashed through his roof. He was standing in a bedroom—"watching the fun"—and it fell within a foot of him.

100 Years Old

The library which he guards is unique. Next year it will be 100 years old.

There is plenty of optimism about the future of the library. Mr Purnell told me "an old lady who had just taken out a life subscription for her grandson, aged 21! And he told me, too, of the subscriber living in Cyprus who wrote in June asking for books. His letter arrived in September, when the books were promptly dispatched!

Greatest Air V.C. Of Last War

AIR MARSHAL BILLY BISHOP, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., D.F.C., greatest fighter pilot that the last war produced, now a director of Canada's great Air Force training scheme, has arrived in England at the invitation of the Air Ministry.

He said that R.A.F. officers with brilliant records have been drafted to Canada, where they are teaching fighter-pilots-to-be the latest tactics of aerial warfare, learned in the great battle of Britain.

Until a few hours before he took off for his flight to England, Air Marshal Bishop was inspecting pilots observers and air gunners who will soon be taking part in the fight against Germany.

The expanded Royal Canadian Air Force now numbers about 25,000 officers and men. Eventually the total will be well over 40,000. Some will be used for the defence of Canada; many others will go to Britain.

Short Training

Billy Bishop said: "The training itself has been short. It may be possible later to shorten it more. We will be able to provide the pilots and the crews. I might say an inexhaustible supply of them."

"They are a grand type of young men, magnificent. They are keen, they are mad on flying—thousands of them, all bursting for a crack at him."

In the last war Billy Bishop made a name as a byword for his brilliant and daring exploits. Officially he is acknowledged to have brought down 70 German planes—more than was credited to any other pilot.

"Death Or Blindness" Baby Dies

TWO years ago the parents of five-weeks-old Helaine Colan, of Chicago, were faced with the problem of choosing between her life or her sight.

They left the choice to a jury of 12 doctors, who decided to save her life at the risk of her sight.

A £200,000 X-ray machine—the largest in the world—was used for an operation on her eyes, which were affected by a growth.

But despite the efforts of specialists and scientists Helaine went blind. She had lost her first battle.

Support

People from all over the world wrote to the parents supporting the decision of saving her life.

Helen Keller, famous in American literary circles in spite of her handicaps of being blind and deaf, wrote: "The child has every right to a fighting chance. Blindness is not the greatest evil—only a physical handicap which Helaine's mind can overcome."

Parents Planned

Plans were made for Helaine's future. But gradually the tiny flicker of life went out.

The child for whom millions of mothers had prayed had lost her last battle.

German Propaganda In U.S.

Mr Wright Patman, Democratic representative for Texas, has asked the Dies Committee which is investigating un-American activities to inquire into the activities of Carl Byoir, who is alleged to be the highest-paid German propagandist in America.

Mr Patman, according to a New York message, says that Byoir, who is a lieutenant-colonel in the reserve, received \$27,000 in the past 18 months.

Byoir compiled booklets for the Nazi Government, and shortly after he became associated with that Government Nazi propaganda came over by every boat, it was alleged.

Hired By Nazis

"I know these are serious charges, but I can substantiate them," continued Mr Patman. "Byoir was hired by Germany to distribute Nazi propaganda."

Investigator of the Dies Committee have seized books and papers at the New York offices of the Trans-oceanic.

The child for whom millions of mothers had prayed had lost her last battle.

Bomb Cured Paralysed Woman

Miss Lily Townsend, an unemployed milliner, of Randolph Gardens, Malda Vale, paralysed her left arm last February by a fall. Now she has been cured by a bomb.

To help Westminster Hospital, where she was treated, she sells flags in the streets. Recently, Miss Townsend was pinning a flag on a girl's costume when a bomb fell near her and threw her violently to the ground.

Back again in Westminster Hospital, she found on regaining her senses that she could move her left arm.

An official at the hospital said: "Surgeons have come to the conclusion that the paralysis was due to an adhesion, and that in her fall when the bomb burst, she unconsciously used her paralysed arm to save herself and so cured the injury."

Goering's 'Suicide Squad' Mend Shattered Nerves In Norway

LARGE numbers of German pilots and airmen are now resting in Norway. They are men who have been bombing London, and according to statements made to a reporter recently by a man just returned from that country, they are far from a happy band.

"They are known as the Suicide Squad," he said. "A number are pilots who used to fly passenger planes between Germany and London. Few, however, are volunteers. The daylight raids are referred to as 'death trips'."

The German pilots based in France, Belgium, or Holland, after two or three raids over England, are ordered to fly their machines to airfields in Norway. Even though they fly from a French base on their first raid over England, they do not return to it. They go to a base in another part of France, or to Belgium or Holland.

This is part of the practice carried out by the German High Command to keep the pilots from talking of their experiences or speculating as to losses sustained.

"We never know where we are going after a raid over London," one pilot told the informant. "Sometimes we fly under sealed orders, at others a radio message comes through while we are in the air. During raids we have to maintain radio touch with headquarters and report progress."

Although there is no apparent shortage of skilled pilots and crews, Germany is now adopting methods of compulsion to obtain pilots. Young officers are taken from cavalry and other regiments and ordered to report for air training.

Under Arrest

Recently three young officers of a famous cavalry regiment were ordered to report for training as bomber pilots. The other officers in the mess decided to give a farewell dinner to them. The dinner became known as the "Farewell to the Suicide Squad!"

Result, the officers were placed under arrest, and all who attended were punished by being sent to danger posts.

Norway to-day is being prepared as the jumping-off ground for intensive raids over Northern England and Scotland in the spring.

Looted Everything

"The Germans," said the informant, "have looted everything and sent great quantities of food into Germany. Meat can be had on only one day a week—if supplies are available. Most of the butchers' shops are closed.

"Civilians are now living mostly on vegetables they have grown themselves."

German propagandists are spreading stories throughout Norway of the imminent collapse of England. A few weeks ago they were saying that invasion was about to begin or had taken place from France and Belgium.

Actually the Germans transported thousands of troops to Norway to train them for the impending invasion. There were many rehearsals on the coast, the troops being taken to sea in small steamers and fishing craft.

"Many of these troops had never seen the sea, much less experienced its behaviour. They went aboard the vessels full of glee. How different was their return. Some had actually to be carried ashore. They would have been a pretty fine invading army for the British to deal with."

Although the air pilots admit that their losses have been in excess of what the most pessimistic anticipated, they say that there is no real shortage of materials.

"Changed Woman" Awarded £1,654

A woman who was stated to have become a nervous wreck through a street accident was awarded £1,654 damages and costs in the King's Bench Division recently.

She is Miss Emily Josephine Hoban, aged 44, of Oakley Square, Hampstead Road, N.W., who fractured her skull when a G.P.O. van backed into her.

Miss Hoban had not been able to resume working.

"She is now a changed woman," said her counsel.

Liability was not disputed by the defendant, Edwin Gentlemen, of Oxford Road, N.W.

SECRETS FROM NAZI SCRAPS

Leakages in the Navy's blockade of Germany, and the effect of the blockade on the German economic system, are being tracked from the wreckage of planes and from odd scraps of enemy war material which fall into our hands.

Every plane which comes down in Britain, every piece of equipment it contains, even the uniforms of German prisoners, are closely examined by skilled technicians.

When they find anything a little out of the ordinary, the scientists get to work and changes in manufacture or the adoption of new substitute materials are traced.

Scotsman New Chief At Scotland Yard

A Scot, Superintendent Alec Bell, has been appointed to be Chief Constable of Scotland-yard.

He succeeds Chief Constable John Horwell recently appointed to the Provost Marshal's department of the R.A.F.

To fill vacancies among the superintendents the commissioner has promoted Chief Inspector Richard Ivor Rees, who was born in Glamorgan forty-six years ago.

Chief Inspector Leonard Burt, recently appointed liaison officer between Scotland and M.I.5, also becomes superintendent.

Detective Inspector Greeno, the Yard's motor bandits specialist, is promoted chief inspector.



FAMILY PARTING—More than 3,500 Puerto Ricans are in army training in Uncle Sam's tropical outpost. Above, Puerto Rican National Guardsman bids farewell to wife and baby at San Juan.

No Basic Changes Are Needed In The Army

DRASTIC investigation into the part which the British Army played in the three weeks' battle of France has revealed that its organisation was excellent and its weapons first class.

Immediately the French capitulated (writes a military correspondent) a number of committees were set up and examined many witnesses to find out if there were any flaws in the organisation of the British Army.

The evidence has shown conclusively that no basic change is required.

Alterations which are necessary are few and of a minor character.

Great Changes

To meet the demands of modern warfare, great changes had been made in Army organisation between the end of the last war and the beginning of this.

Perhaps the most striking alteration has been the astonishing increase in fire power of the infantry battalion.

In 1914 this unit had but two machine-guns; it now has 50, and in addition, carries its own anti-aircraft, and anti-tank guns and mortars.

Smaller Divisions

The Army of to-day believes more than ever that it is better to build a wall of steel than a wall of bodies.

Another considerable reorganisation is the reduction in the strength of a division—a move designed to give greater handiness and in these days of mechanisation, mobility.

Fell From Theatre Circle, Is Accused

Alfred Hartley, aged twenty, of Market-street, Whitechapel (Lancs), was accused at Rochdale recently of attempting to commit suicide by throwing himself from the upper circle of the Theatre Royal there. He was remanded for medical observation.

Hartley, who was not seriously hurt, was alleged to have said, "I had been courting a girl and she jilted me and got married last Saturday. I thought of committing suicide, but I changed my mind. On Friday night, while in the Theatre Royal, I decided to smash myself up and get put in the infirmary for a few weeks."

Superintendent French, said the woman on whom Hartley fell was badly injured. It was not known how long it would be before she recovered.

BEGGAR'S GIFT TO WAR FUND

Moved by the German atrocities on London, a beggar at the city gate went to Lucknow magistrates and paid in four annas (about 4½d.), the whole of his day's takings, to the Governor's war fund.

He had heard of the raids on London on the radio.

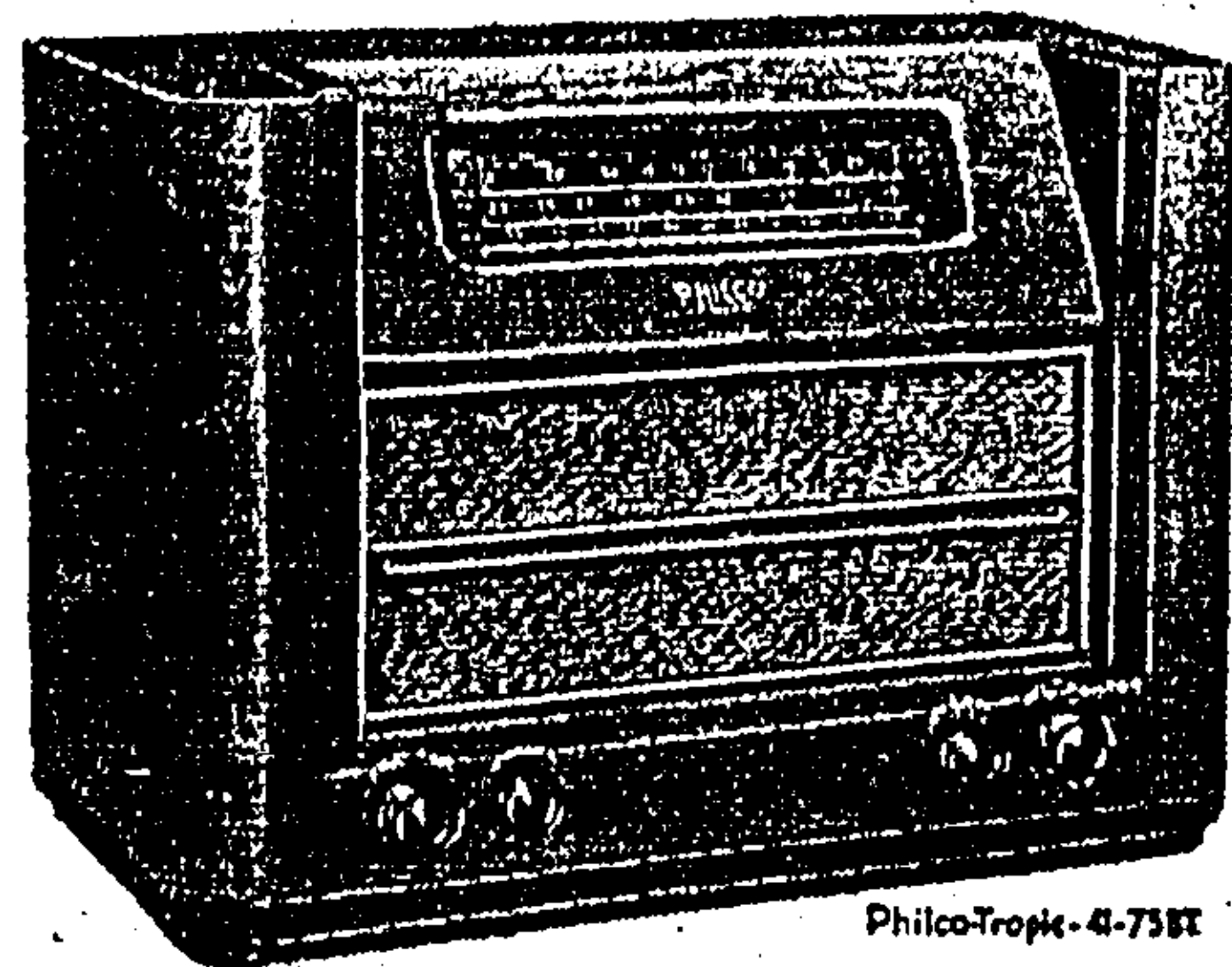
THE TURNING POINT IN CONVALESCENCE

When the crisis is past in illness, recovery may still be a long way off. The real turning point for the better comes when the patient begins to fill out and pick up noticeably from day to day.

decisive factor in that quick recovery is good food. When patients cannot take solid meals and have a disinclination for most kinds of food, doctors give them Horlicks. Horlicks is so light, that the most delicate stomach can assimilate it, so delicious that the most finicky appetite responds to it. It is a complete food in itself, balanced, highly nutritious, full of the elements that the wasted body needs to restore shattered nerves and build healthy tissues.

Keep Horlicks in the house always. You can get it to-day at your store.

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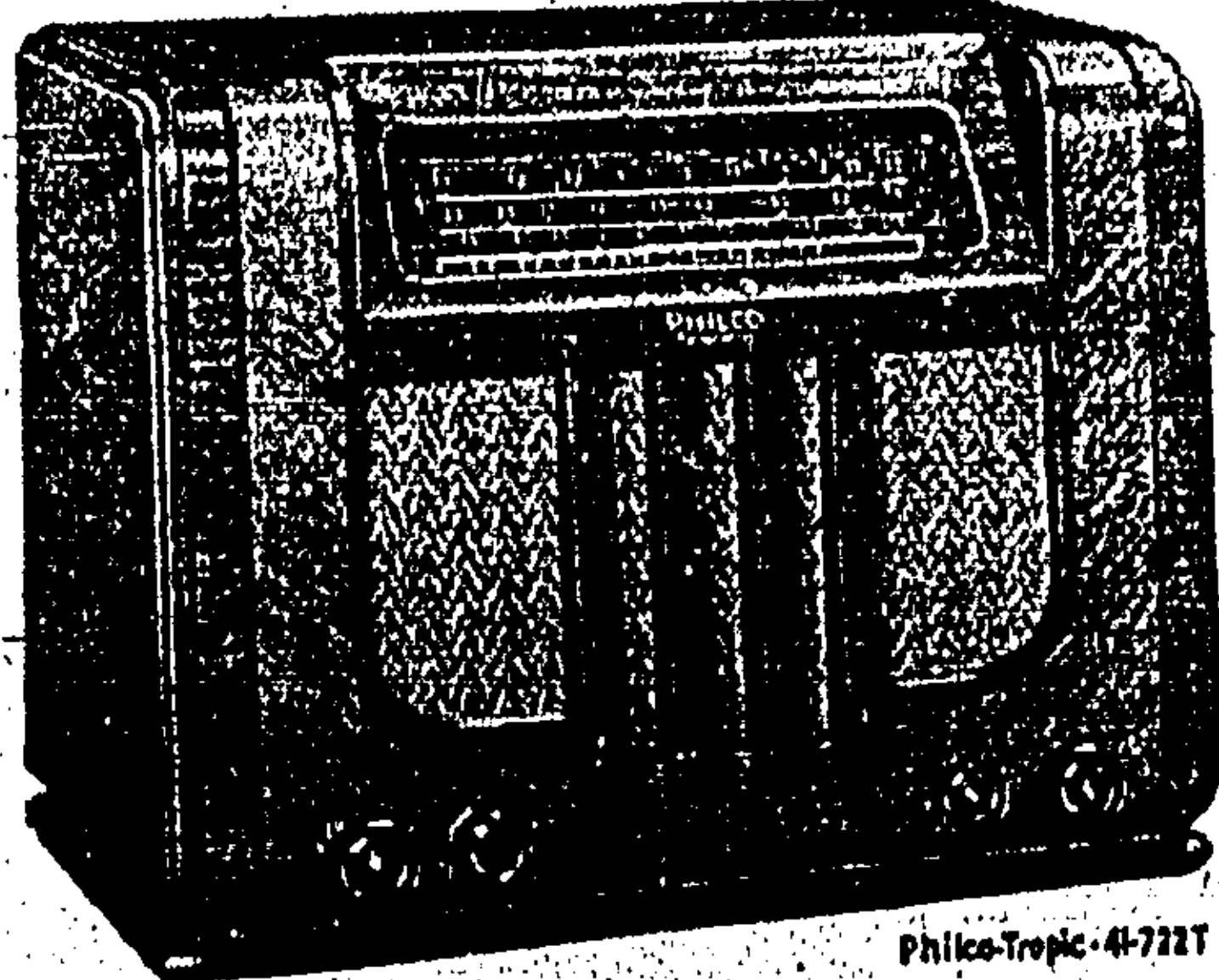
Also a fine selection of RADIO-GRAMOPHONES with Garrard Automatic Record — Changer, or Standard Gramophone Unit, in a choice variety of handsome cabinets.

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The SIMPLEST and SPEEDIEST way YOU can help WIN THE WAR is to give regular CASH DONATIONS to the Government.

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Can You Afford \$10 per month?
Can You Afford \$1 per month?

NO SUM TOO LARGE. NO SUM TOO SMALL. Fill in the form below and HELP WIN THE WAR.

Donations to 18-12-40: \$1,498,414.14

Remitted to London: £92,389.19.6d.

Hongkong, December 1940.

The Manager,

..... Bank,

Hongkong.

Sir,

Commencing 2nd. January, 1941, and until further notice, please transfer the sum of \$..... Monthly to "War Fund; South China Morning Post Ltd." and debit my current account.

Yours faithfully,

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

25 words \$2.50
for 3 days prepaid

FOR SALE.

THOROUGHbred Scottish terriers. Entire proceeds to the Bomber Fund. Can be seen anytime after Wednesday, December 18. At No. 1 Robinson Road—Mrs. Petro.

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Reserve Liability of Proprietors £2,000,000
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Branches in the Seychelles Islands.

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Branches in the Mascarene Islands.

Branches in the Reunion Islands.

Branches in the Mauritius Islands.

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Branches in the British Islands.

Branches in the Channel Islands.

Branches in the Isle of Man.

Branches in the Shetland Islands.

Branches in the Orkney Islands.

Branches in the Hebrides Islands.

Branches in the Faroe Islands.

Branches in the Azores Islands.

Branches in the Madeira Islands.

Branches in the Canary Islands.

Branches in the Balearic Islands.

Branches in the Sardinia Islands.

Branches in the Corsica Islands.

Branches in the Sicily Islands.

Branches in the Calabria Islands.

Branches in the Basilicata Islands.

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Branches in the Basilicata Islands.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE

DEFENCE REGULATIONS 1940

The following rates will be charged for mailing single copies of the following newspapers abroad:—

South China Morning Post
China and Macao
16 cents per copy

British Empire and Foreign
25 cents per copy

The Hongkong Telegraph
China and Macao
14 cents per copy

British and Foreign
20 cents per copy

25 cents Saturdays.

H.K. Stock Market

The following quotations were issued on the Hongkong Stock Market this morning.

BANKS
H.K. Banks \$1,365 b. & so.
H.K. Banks (H.K.) £81 n.
Chartered £84 n.
Mercantile, A. & B. £26 1/2 n.
Mercantile, C. £104 n.
East Asia £74 b.

INSURANCES
Canton \$100 U.
Union \$307 1/2 sa.
China Underwriters \$1 n.
H.K. Fire \$150 n.

SHIPPING
Douglas \$135 n.
Steamboats \$11 n.
Indo-China P. \$100 n.
Indo-China D. \$80 n.
Shell (Bearers) \$38/9 n.
Waterboats \$7 n.

DOCKS ETC.
Wharves \$92 b.
Docks (old) \$18 1/4 sa.
Docks (new) \$17.60 b.
Providents \$5.60/65 sa.
Shui Dockyards \$30 n.

MINING
Kallian \$10/3 n.
Ruhua \$9 1/4 n.
H.K. Mines \$1 1/4 cts. n.

LANDS
Hotels \$3 1/4 b.
Lands \$33.60 b.
Lands 4% Debentures \$100 n.
Shui Lands Sh \$11 1/2 b.
Humphreys \$7.80 n.
H.K. Realities \$3.55 b.
Chinese Estates \$100 n.

UTILITIES
Trams \$17.70 sa.
Peak Trams (old) \$7.40 n.
Peak Trams (new) \$3 1/4 n.
Star Ferries \$61 b.
Y. Ferries \$24 1/4 n.
China Lights (old) \$7 1/2 n.
China Lights (new) \$7.05 b.
H.K. Electric (old) \$40 1/2 n.
H.K. Electric (new) \$39 3/4 n.
Macao Electric (old) \$17 1/2 n.
Macao Electric (new) \$16 1/2 n.
Sankatani Lights \$11.30 b.
Telephones (old) \$25 1/2 n.
Telephones (new) \$10.30 b.

INDUSTRIALS
Caid. Macg. (Ord.) Sh. \$14.90 n.
Caid. Macg. (Pref.) Sh. \$12 n.
Canton Ice \$1 n.
Cements \$18.20 b.
H.K. Ropes \$7 b.

STORES, &c.
Dairy Farms \$19 1/4 n.
Watsons \$10.60 sa.
Lane Crawfords \$9 n.
Sincere \$2.15 n.
Wing On (H.K.) \$30 n.
Powell Ltd. \$100 n.

COTTON MILLS
Ewo Sh. \$37 n.
Shui Cotton Sh. \$165 n.

MISC.
H.K. Govt. 4% \$98 n.
H.K. Govt. 3 1/2% (1934) \$84 n.
H.K. Govt. 3 1/2% (1940) \$84 n.
Ch. Govt. 5% 1925 CSBs \$35 1/2 n.
H.K. Entertainments \$7 b.
Constructions (old) \$1.60 b.
Constructions (new) \$1 n.
Vibro Piling \$7.70 n.
Marsmans Inv. (Lon.) \$7/8 n.
Marsmans Inv. (H.K.) \$2/6 n.

STOCK EXCHANGE Oil Shares Attractive

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—On the Stock Exchange to-day oil shares continued to attract interest, the outstanding feature being the rise of Anglo-Egyptians from 47s. 6d. to 52s. 6d. on good buying orders.

Otherwise the markets experienced a quiet day and prices often drifted lower for want of fresh support.

Industrials were irregular and foreign bonds were neglected but the previous levels were well maintained. Indian loans hardened while Kafirra met little. Cape offering. Coppers, however, were again supported.

Wall Street was irregularly higher.

1,371 Detained

LONDON, Dec. 18 (British Wire).—On October 31 the total number of persons detained in Britain under the Defence Regulations was 1,371.

This figure was given in a White Paper dealing with the subject which also states that during that month 33 persons were detained, all being British subjects although 19 of them were of enemy origin.

Vigorous Warning To Spain on Tangier Coup

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The British Ambassador to Spain, Sir Samuel Hoare, is making "further vigorous representations" in "very definite" language about the recent Spanish assumption of services hitherto dependent on the international administration of Tangier.

Mr Butler gave a categorical statement on the subject in Parliament in reply to questions as to what steps were being taken to secure the reinstatement of British personnel.

Mr Butler recalled that following the promulgation of the law on December 1, Britain was assured that the collective and individual rights of British subjects at Tangier would be safeguarded. Further unilateral action on December 13 with "all the consequences which flow therefrom" had been vigorously taken up with the Spanish Government.

Mr de Mander (Lib.) urged the Government carefully to reconsider the advisability of continuing the supply of food through the British blockade to a government which treats British subjects in this "highly aggressive and unbecoming manner."

Mr Butler said that he had used the words "with all the consequences flowing therefrom" to indicate the gravity with which the Government view the latest event.

Mr O. E. Baker (Lab.) asked that if the negotiations were not successful, Government would bear in mind the fact that all which might be stopped was still being allowed to reach Spain.

Mr Butler: "Everything will be borne in mind."

Generous War Injury Payments

Compensation Scheme

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter).

The whole adult population of the United Kingdom is covered by a scheme of compensation for injury or death due to enemy action.

The scheme which is announced by Sir Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer to-day, provides for a weekly payment varying between 35s. and 7s. Lobby correspondent says that it is claimed that no other Government or country has made such ample provisions for such cases in the present war.

Pensions will be payable in cases of long term disablement while the widow of a civilian worker whose death is due to enemy action, may receive 50s. weekly for the first ten weeks following the husband's death.

The payments will begin on December 24 and will cover injuries already suffered.

Harsh Nazi Treatment

Questions In Commons

LONDON, Dec. 18 (British Wire).—In the course of a question relating to exchange of British women detained by the German Government, Colonel Evans asked the Foreign Secretary to bear in mind a letter received from one of these persons dated October 1, alleging that they had been subjected to clothing for five months, that they had not received any parcels or letters of any kind, that they were fed on potatoes, and that they had no occupation.

In view of these circumstances and the small number of British women involved, Colonel Evans asked if Government would take steps to see that representations were made to the proper quarter at the earliest moment.

Replying, Mr R. A. Butler, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, said that Government realised the seriousness of the position and was aware of the difficulties existing in putting things right.

Nazi Troops Reported In Italian Ports

(By "Reuter's" Military Commentator)

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The report that German forces have arrived at Naples and Bari (lower Italy west and east ports), opens up some important problems, both political and military in character.

If such a move had in fact taken place, it would be a serious blow to Mussolini's personal position as well as to that of the Fascist Party. Their power would be shaken to its foundations.

Prince Umberto or the Army would take control, or German soldiers supporting the Fascist Police would temporarily bolster an Italian Government, Italian discontent with a ruthless hand. If they seize the reins, what would the next move be? Would the Italians be able to get rid of the Nazi visitors?

These questions raise immense possibilities which it is too early as yet to probe.

Too Late To Save Albania
The possible effect of the arrival of German forces in Bari on the war in Albania gives further material for consideration. The presence of Ger-

Exchange At A Glance

SELLING

T.T. London 1/2 1/2
Demand London 1/2 1/2
T.T. Shanghai 1/2 1/2
T.T. Singapore 1/2 1/2
T.T. Japan 1/2 1/2
T.T. India 1/2 1/2
T.T. U.S.A. 1/2 1/2
T.T. Manila 1/2 1/2
T.T. Batavia 1/2 1/2
T.T. Bangkok 1/2 1/2
T.T. Saigon 1/2 1/2
T.T. France 1/2 1/2
T.T. Switzerland 1/2 1/2
T.T. Australia 1/2 1/2

BUYING

4 m/s L/C London 1/3 1/4
4 m/s D/P London 1/3 1/4
4 m/s L/C U.S.A. 24 1/2
4 m/s France 24 1/2
30 d/s India 84 1/2
U.S. Cross rate in London 402 1/2
U.S. Cross rate in N.Y. 403 1/2

JAPANESE RAID HENGYANG

HENGYANG, Dec. 19 (Central News).—Fifteen Japanese aircraft in two waves again raided Hengyang, on the Canton-Hankow Railway, in south-east Hunan, yesterday.

The first wave of nine planes appeared over the city at 9.45 a.m. and after dumping a number of bombs flew away in a northerly direction. The second wave of six machines came over about 10 minutes later. Three of them were pursued. They strafed the city with machine-gun fire. Most of the bombs dropped landed on vacant lots.

Kunming Visited
KUNMING, Dec. 19 (Central News).—Kunyang, south of Kunming, was bombed yesterday by nine Japanese planes.

Earlier, 30 enemy machines cruised over the Yunnan border but departed shortly afterwards. One of them flew over here on reconnaissance.

Western Shansi
HINGTSHI, Dec. 18 (Central News).—Chinese troops are renewing attacks on the Japanese in southern Shansi where sporadic fighting is taking place. During the past few days, many points on the Chingcheng-Yangcheng and Yangcheng-Tsinshui highways were raided resulting in numerous Japanese casualties and the destruction of several sections of the roads.

On December 11, a Japanese detachment was surrounded and decimated by the Chinese at Paercheng south of Hsinhsien. A surprise Chinese attack on a Japanese outpost at Huashihien near Kanhsien on the following day resulted in more than 20 Japanese killed.

In western Shansi, the Japanese are taking the offensive. Since December 14, a large Japanese force of some 10,000 men has been attacking Ninghsien, where the Chinese are putting up a stubborn resistance despite the bitter weather conditions, and are successfully holding up the Japanese advance. On December 17, four Japanese planes bombed Hinghsien, but little damage was caused. With the arrival of reinforcements, the Chinese are launching a counter-offensive to halt the Japanese drive.

CARY'S GRANT

Cary Grant, the film star, has sent to the American Red Cross a cheque for £13,000, his earnings from a recently completed film, to buy supplies for Britons in need.



PRESIDENT'S GUESTS—Earl of Athlone and his wife, Princess Alice, as they arrived at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., to be week-end guests of President Roosevelt at Hyde Park. He's Governor General of Canada and uncle of King George.

Chicago Bids To Oust Hollywood

CHICAGO, Dec. 18 (UP).—Mayor Edward J. Kelly has offered movie producer Cecil B. DeMille a 21-acre tract of city land "to re-establish Chicago as America's film capital."

Kelly said he would discuss the proposition with DeMille, who will arrive here shortly for the premiere of his film "North-west Mounted Police."

"Chicago was the birth-place of the movie industry," Kelly said in announcing the offer. In 1907 the Essanay Co. produced here the first large-scale motion pictures, and launched the film careers of Charlie Chaplin, Ben Turpin, Gloria Swanson and others, Kelly said.

The exodus began, Kelly said, when DeMille, disappointed with the scenic conditions at Flagstaff, Arizona, "rode to the end of the railroad line—Hollywood."

COUNCIL MEETING

CHANGE OF DESIGNATION OF POLICE OFFICIAL

At a meeting of the Legislative Council this afternoon, the Attorney General will move that the style of the office of "Divisional Superintendent of Police" be changed to that of "Senior Superintendent of Police" for all purposes, and that the necessary addition be made to the Schedule to the Public Officers (Changes of Style) Ordinance, 1937.

The Attorney General will also move the first reading of "A Bill to amend the Holidays Ordinance, 1912."

WAR RISK RATES CUT

Official war risk insurance rates for waters near the Near East and Mediterranean have been reduced for the first time since Italy entered the war.

American underwriters have drastically reduced the Mediterranean war risk rates.—United Press.

Mystery Illness Kills Schoolgirl

A disease for which no cure has been found, although the malady was first discovered, simultaneously, by a Scottish doctor and a German doctor in 1845, has caused the death of Joan Audrey Parker, a 14-year-old evacuee, staying at Farnham Common Bucks.

The disease is leukaemia. The white corpuscles of the blood of victims keep on increasing and changes also take place in the bone marrow. The symptoms at first are like those of anaemia. In Joan Parker's case she complained of a sore throat. Injections of arsenic and of benzole have checked some cases, and X-ray treatment has been tried, with some temporary effect.

Mr Kennedy-Skipston Gets Promotion

Recent promotions and appointments in the Colonial Service include that of Mr G. S. Kennedy-Skipston, Cadet Officer Grade II, who has been promoted to Cadet Officer, Grade I, Hongkong.

Miss M. Carew, who was formerly a Staff Sister in the F.M.S. Medical Service, has been appointed a Nursing Sister, Hongkong.

M.B.K. DIVIDEND CUT

Following its amalgamation with the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha has declared a dividend of 12.14 per cent, as approved by the Government Accounts and Assessment Committee yesterday. Prior to its amalgamation, the M.B.K.'s dividend of 15 per cent.

The same Committee approved a dividend of 10 per cent. for the Japan Nitrogenous Manure Manufacturing Company.—Domei.

CAROL SINGING

Christmas carols will be sung on Sunday evening next in the European Y.M.C.A. at 8 p.m. in the West Lounge. The Rev. F. Short will conduct the programme, to music arranged by Mr G. Brass. All are cordially invited to attend.

POST OFFICE

Small Packet Post to all countries suspended.

INWARD MAILS

Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" by sea from Singapore: Canton Dec. 21; Sundakan Dec. 21; Calcutta and Straits Dec. 22; Australia and Manila Dec. 23; London and Straits Dec. 24; Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service" San Francisco, 17th December Dec. 25; U.S.A., Honolulu and Manila (San Francisco date, 3rd Dec.) Dec. 26; U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan and Shanghai (San Francisco date, 17th Dec.) Dec. 27; Java and Manila Dec. 27.

OUTWARD MAIL TIMES

Registered and Parcel Mail are issued 15 minutes earlier than the time given below to all others. Registered and parcel mails are advertised to close at or before 9 a.m. registered and parcel mails are closed at 1 p.m. on the previous day. When mails are advertised to close after 1 p.m., Registered and Parcel mails are closed at 5 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 20
Manila, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa and United Kingdom K.P.O. & G.P.O.

Par. Dec. 20, 10 a.m.
Reg. Dec. 20, 11 a.m.
Ord. Dec. 20, 12.30 p.m.

Air Mail by Air to Rangoon to connect with the "British Overseas Airways".

G.P.O. & K.P.O.
Reg. Dec. 20, 4 p.m.
Ord. Dec. 20, 4.30 p.m.

Air Mail by Air to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways".

K.P.O.
Reg. Dec. 20, 5 p.m.
Ord. Dec. 20, 5.30 p.m.

G.P.O.
Reg. Dec. 20, 5 p.m.
Ord. Dec. 20, 7 p.m.

Haliphong Saturday, Dec. 21

Straits 8.30 a.m.
Shanghai, Japan, Canada, U.S.A., Central and South America and United Kingdom via Vancouver B.C. (Parcels for Canada only).

Note.—All Mails for United Kingdom will be forwarded with or without superscription.

G.P.O. & K.P.O.
Par. Dec. 21, 5 p.m.
Reg. Dec. 21, 5 p.m.
Ord. Dec. 21, 5.30 p.m.

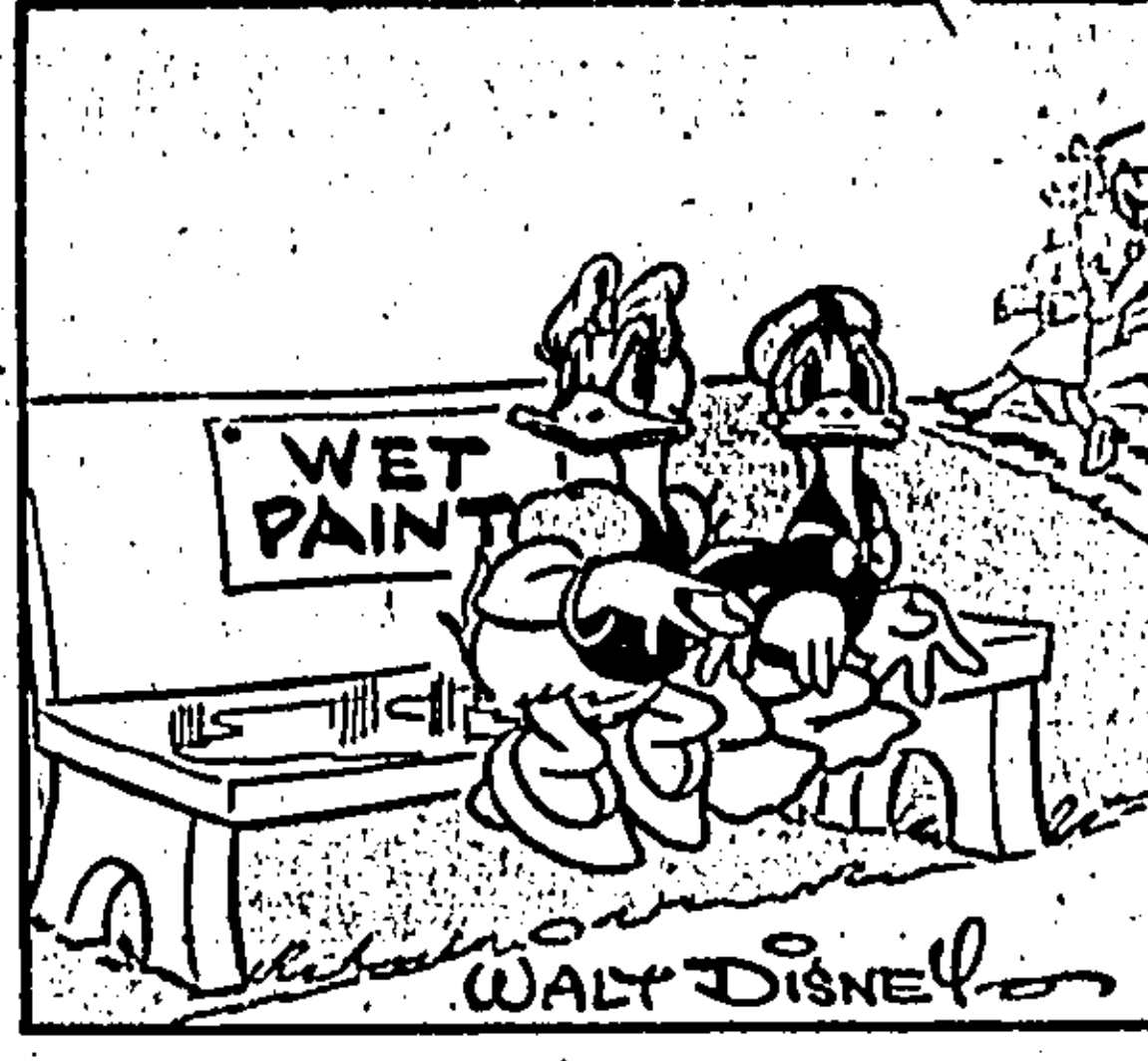
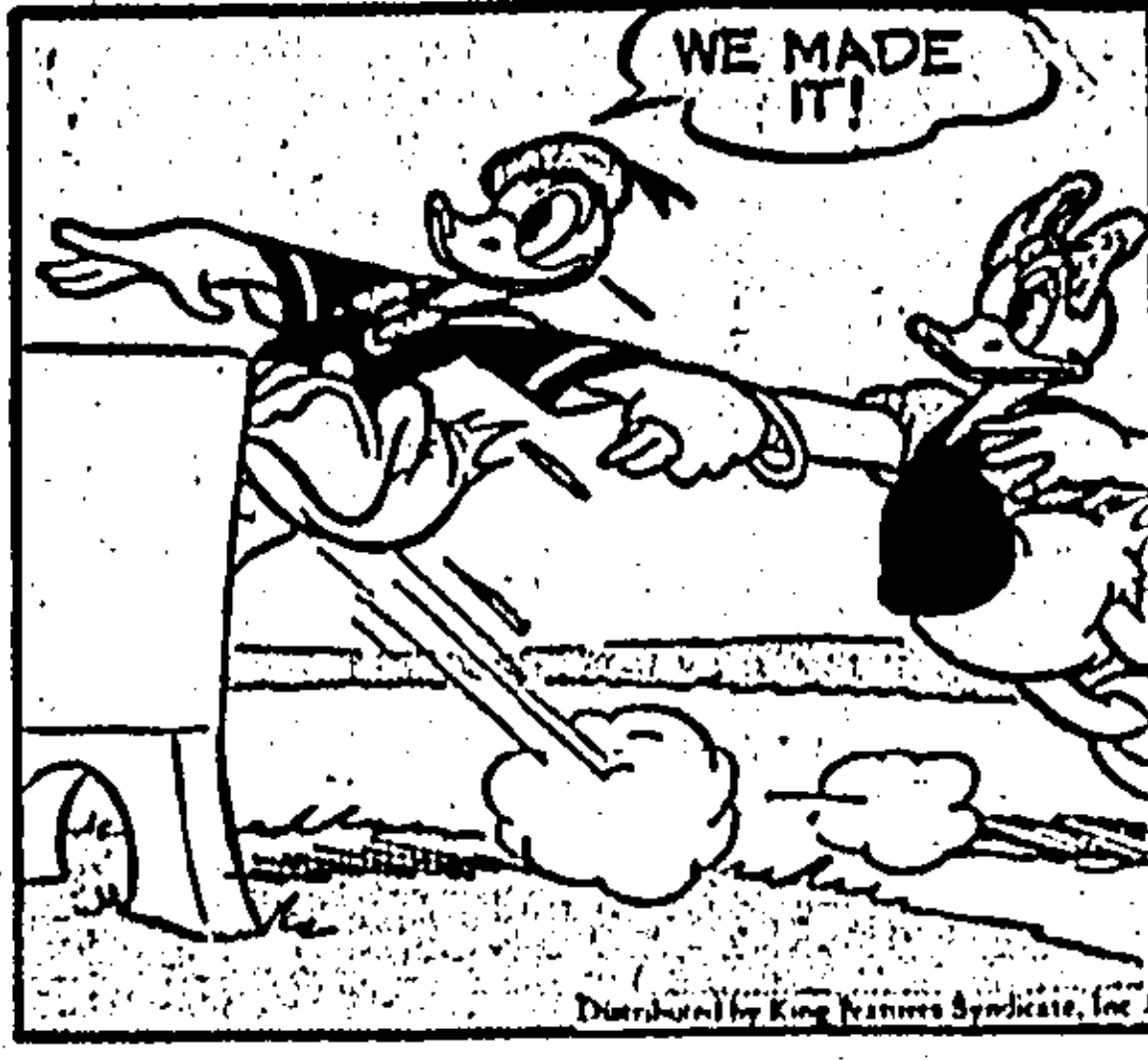
Sunday, Dec. 22

Canton 7.15 a.m.
Monday, Dec. 23

Straits and Calcutta 8.30 a.m.
Parcels Dec. 23, 10.30 a.m.
Letters Dec. 23, 11.30 a.m.

Air Mail by Sea to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways".

DONALD DUCK



ANCHOR BUTTER

THE WORLD'S BEST!

Obtainable from All Leading Stores.

Sole Agents: LANE, CRAWFORD LTD.

BERLIN IS FULL OF ARMS WORKS TARGETS FOR THE R.A.F.

By A Special Correspondent
NO capital city in Europe is so highly industrialised or contains so many military targets in the heart of the city itself as Berlin.

Its magnificent airport, Tempelhof, unlike any of the other big aerodromes of Europe, is only a short distance from the centre of the city.

For air-travelling business people, and tourists from all countries, it was a very much appreciated advantage to be connected by car or coach within a few minutes with the principal hotels.

But in war-time this is naturally a danger for tens of thousands of inhabitants of the crowded districts, Kreuzberg, Tempelhof, Mariendorf, and Neukölln in the immediate neighbourhood.

Big Centre

For Tempelhof is now, of course, a military aerodrome of vital importance.

Apart from this, Berlin has always been, and still is, the biggest arms production centre in Germany, comparable only with the Ruhr district.

Berlin was, and still is, the stronghold of German metallurgical production in which already in peacetime at least 300,000 workers were engaged. Many more it is certain, are working there now.

The huge Siemens works form a special town, Siemensstadt, between Charlottenburg and Spandau, which include thousands of workers' and engineers' dwellings.

Old Arsenal Town

Spandau, which also belongs to Greater Berlin, is the old State arsenal town of the Reich, including even a gun foundry and plants for every possible manufacturing of other arms. It is moreover directly linked with the second big military air base of the capital, Staaken. Most of the biggest arms factories are, it is true, in outer districts, but nearly all surrounded by residential areas—the Knorr-Bremse, in Lichtenberg, and the Siemens, in the Prenzlauer Berg, in the north. The Daimler works in Marienfelde, and the big factories in Tempelhof, lining the southern and eastern border of the Tempelhof airfield.

Admits Nazis Might Seize Belgian Food

By W. N. EWER.

THE German army in Belgium, if their transport breaks down because of war conditions, will "live on the country."

So German authorities have told Mr. John Cudahy, former United States Minister in Brussels.

Mr. Cudahy, who is now in London and talked to Press representatives, is apparently anxious to persuade Americans to send food to Belgium for the relief of the Belgian population.

He "believes" that the German Army would "promise" not to requisition food sent for that purpose.

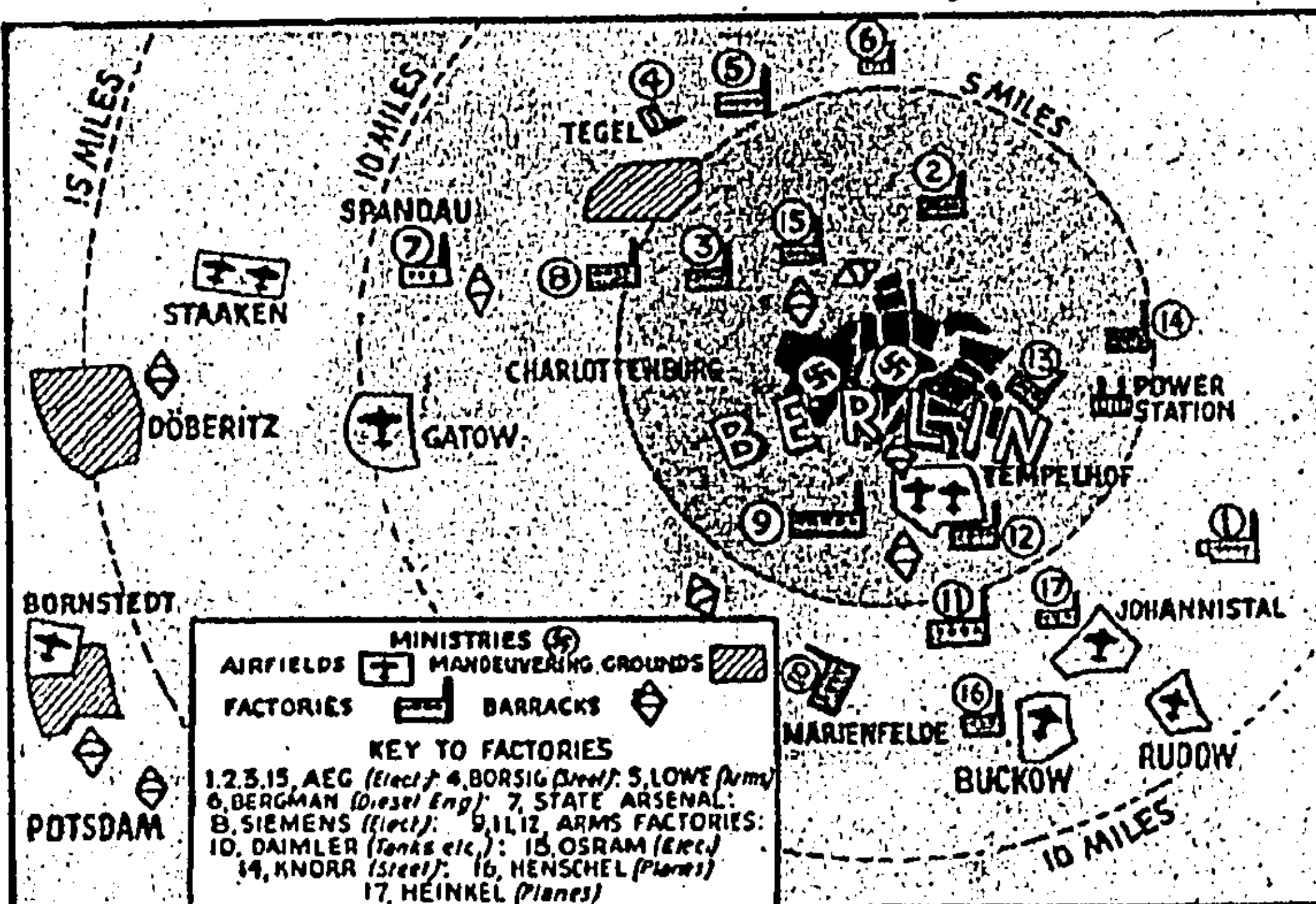
But even he admits that in the event of transport trouble (real or staged) the Germans would take all they could and let the Belgians starve.

It is significant that even now, according to Mr. Cudahy, Belgians are only being allowed 200 grammes of bread a day to one person—any two slices.

It is, though he omitted to say so, only two-thirds of what the German people get.

The fact that Belgium, like the other occupied countries, is being deliberately starved in order to provide food for the Nazis.

For the rest, Mr. Cudahy's interview consisted of warm tributes to the German Army and King Leopold.



NURSES HIT BACK AT RANEE'S 'SLUR'

Nurses are indignant at the slur cast on their profession in reported statements by the Ranee of Sarawak, wife of Sir Charles Brooke, white Rajah of Sarawak, regarding the evacuation of children to Canada.

"If things are not changed, wish to help the future generation of Britain." The young rif-raff of England—and you'll be sorry, let me tell you," she declared, according to the "Toronto Globe."

"Women of England are faking names of relatives in Canada just so they can get rid of their children," she is further reported to have said.

Lady Brooke also spoke of English "society" women who offered to pay the passages of children going to Canada.

"They placed them in charge of nurses," she went on, according to the paper.

"The only object of many of the nurses is to get a man aboard ship and they don't care what happens."

"Nice youngsters and rotten youngsters are mixed up together. It's shameful."

Strong public criticism of these remarks has been made in Toronto. In England, Miss Beatrice Maud Droppa, national organiser for the Guild of Nurses, said:

"I think it's a very grave reflection on the nursing profession."

Put Job First

"I'm sure nurses who volunteer for this type of service do so out of devotion to their job because they

Child Flung In Air, Dies

A man who flung a three-year-old boy into the air while at play and failed to catch him gave evidence at the inquest at Birmingham on the boy, Donald William White, of Whitehead-road, Aston, Birmingham.

The mother, Mrs. Doris White, said that she and her sister went to a public-house at night and took the child with them. She heard a bump, and turned round to see the boy on the ground.

Albert Edward Davis, of Victoria-road, Aston, said that he picked up the child and tossed him into the air. He slipped, missed his balance, and failed to catch the boy, who fell on his head.

Coroner's Comment

Recording a verdict of accidental death, the Coroner, Dr. W. H. Davison, commented: "Mothers should not take their children to a public-house at this hour."



THE RANEE OF SARAWAK

Miss Beatrice Mary Heathcote, of Onslow-gardens, London, S.W., who is going to Canada, said:

"I count it a great honour to be chosen. It is a very responsible position, and we shall have neither the time nor the opportunity for a social life."

Miss Esid Helen Ogilvie, who will go to New Zealand, said:

"Nurses are volunteering for this service because they want to look after the children, not because they are out for a good time."

"It is a work of mercy and they are prepared to face danger and discomfort in carrying out their duties."

An Honour

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GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty

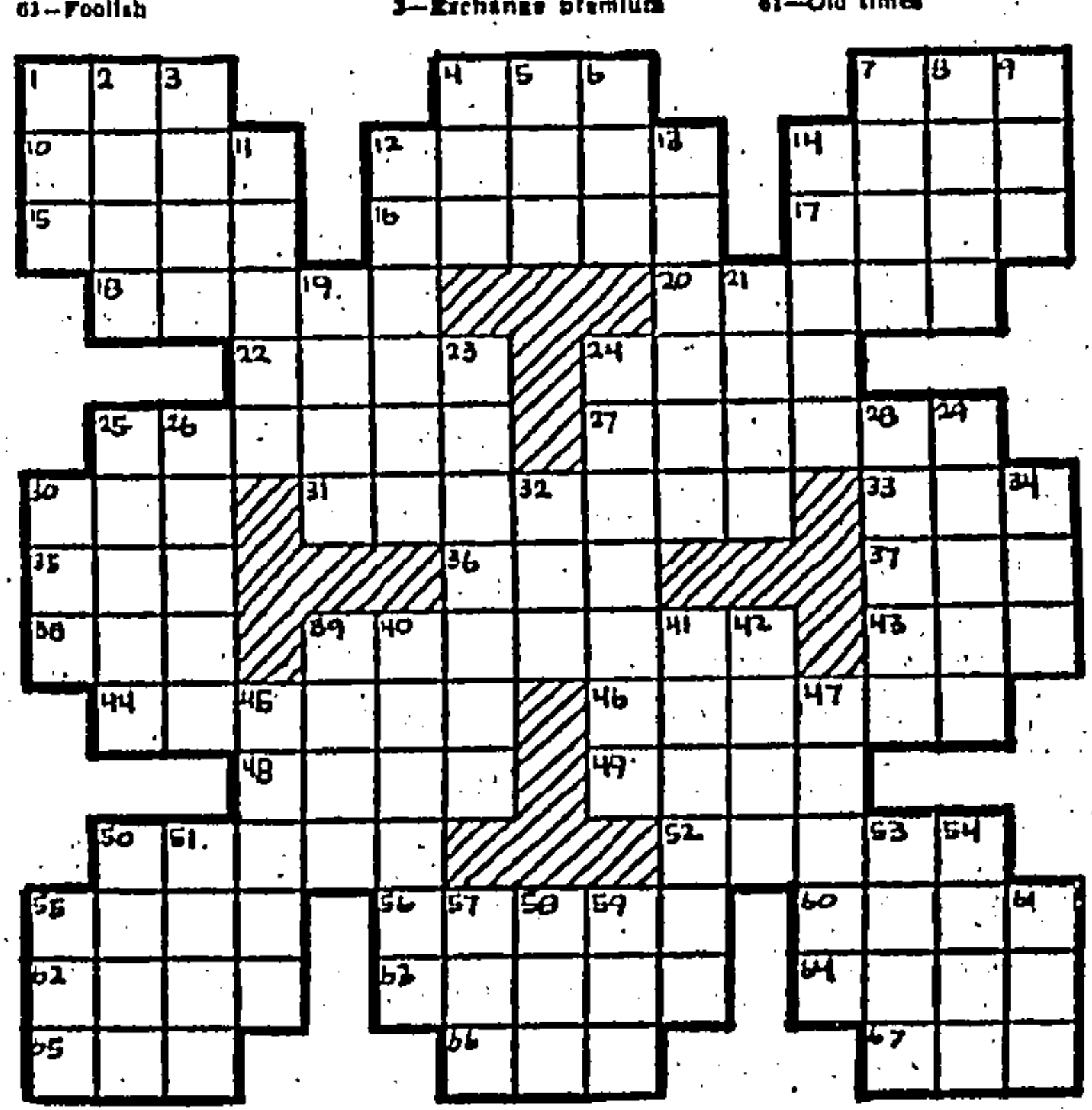
ADMIRAL DUFFLE

"And don't expect any other callers! I cancelled the fleet's shore leave!"

Crossword Puzzle

By LARS MORRIS

ACROSS	ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE	DOWN
1—Man's name	4—Derivative	1—Electrified particle
2—Country name	5—Hurried	2—Eastern European
3—Body of water	6—Cuckoo	3—Exchange premium
4—Little name	7—Presently	
5—African antelope	8—Total	
6—Best certificate	9—Denon wine city	
7—Metal pin	10—Blumens criminal	
8—Ancient gift to guests	11—Lively	
9—Crucifix	12—At one time	
10—Leaves falling	13—Climbing plant	
11—Monks	14—Entire mouth open	
12—Violence	15—Roof edges	
13—Verbal	16—Tireless	
14—Amiable derivation	17—Interacted	
15—Small girls	18—Letter of alphabet	
16—Large cup	19—Spill	
17—Learned	20—Blunders	
18—Faint	21—Vulgar language	
19—Faintly	22—Ship deck	
20—Energy (nouns)	23—Whirl	
21—Gravely	24—Means for raising purposes	
22—Gravely	25—Whirl	
23—Gravely	26—Whirl	
24—Gravely	27—Whirl	
25—Gravely	28—Whirl	
26—Gravely	29—Whirl	
27—Gravely	30—Whirl	
28—Gravely	31—Whirl	
29—Gravely	32—Whirl	
30—Gravely	33—Whirl	
31—Gravely	34—Whirl	
32—Gravely	35—Whirl	
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12.30 Humorous Variety.

1.03 Derek Oldham (Tenor) and the New Light Symphony Orchestra.

1.30 Reuter and Rugby Press, Weather Forecast and Announcements.

1.45 Tangos and Waltzes.

2.15 Close down.

6.30 Closing Local Stock Quotations.

6.32 Dance Music by Harry Roy and His Orchestra.

7.00 London Relay—The News.

7.15 London Relay—Questions of the Hour.

7.30 Variety Programme.

8.00 Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements.

8.03 Studio—Two Piano Jazz Recital.

8.23 Sea Shanties and Choruses.

8.45 Studio—Local Newsletter.

9.00 London Relay—The News and News Commentary.

9.30 An hour of Popular Classics.

10.30 Schubert—Ronde in A Major, Henri Remnik (Violin) and the Temilanka Chamber Orchestra.

10.45 Liszt—Les Preludes—Symphonic Poem.

London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Albert Coates.

11.00 Close down.

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FOR EVACUATES

HONGKONG'S NEWS

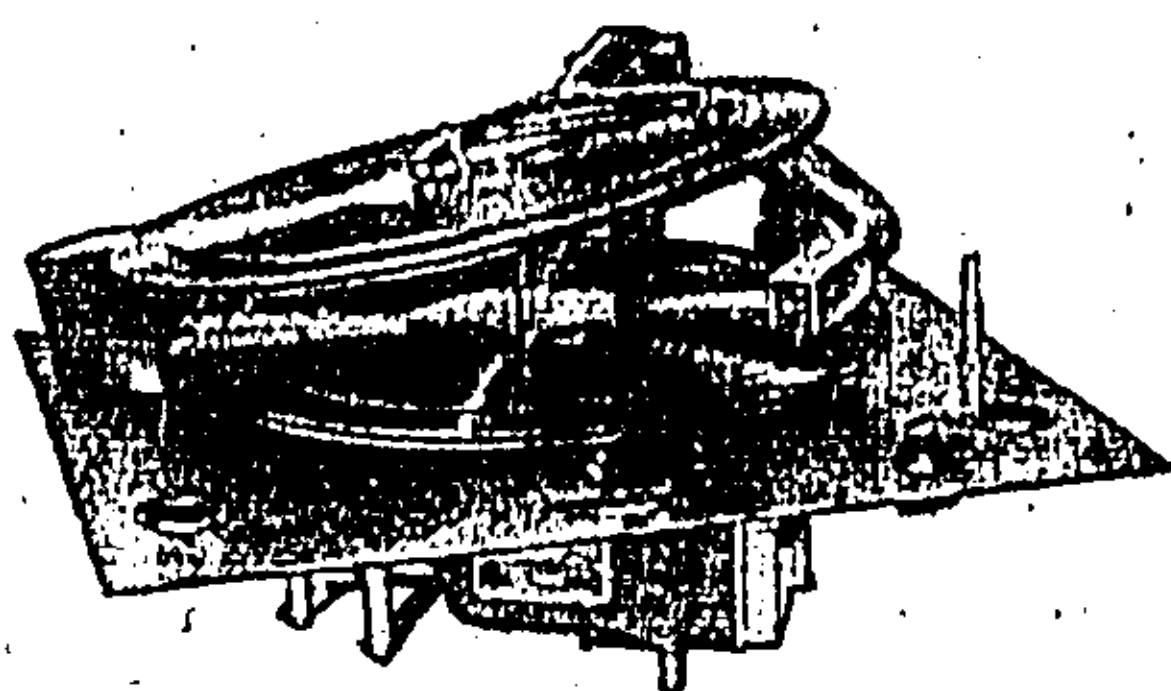
OF THE WEEK

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Phone: 27778-9

Stubbs Rd.

The Hongkong Telegraph

Thursday, December 19, 1940.

Wyndham St., Hongkong
Telephone: 26615

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PREPAREDNESS

PREPAREDNESS for a new move by Hitler against Britain has again become the keynote of the speeches by the country's spokesmen. Lord Beaverbrook yesterday told in measured terms of the probable German plans for the future. Simultaneously it was announced that Britain had officially requested financial aid from the United States in order to carry on making purchases of essential war materials, while the Admiralty gave added emphasis to the current situation and the threats of the future by revealing the heavy losses which had recently been suffered at sea.

On the face of it there would appear to be good grounds for despondency, but such is not the case, and neither is it intended that the revelations made by British leaders during the past 48 hours should promote any such reaction. This is an honest, sensible appeal to face realities and to be prepared for anything. It is a necessary attitude, for only by complete preparedness can the Empire thwart the evil machinations of Hitler and his allies.

Britons have never been guilty of underestimating their opponents in a fight, though, perhaps, they have been in the past, too generous in the willing acceptance of specious promises and alleged goodwill. But this is war, and the whole Empire is ready to take the Nazis at their face value. The enemy still retains several advantages, but he has lost one of his greatest weapons—the element of surprise. Britain now has a thoroughly good working idea of what totalitarian warfare means, and daily she is discovering means to counter and defeat it.

Preparedness is the watchword, and this applies both to the supply of war weapons and in the mentality of the nation. Because of this, it is no sign of weakness that Britain now asks the United States for even greater aid than she has been giving; on the contrary, Britain says to her cousin nation: "We are prepared; we are preparing; we are doing our utmost in a fight, the result of which means as much to you as it does to us; therefore, give us generously the aid, of which so much is in your power; we ask only assistance against a common enemy." Like Lord Beaverbrook's speech, this is not an appeal to sentiment, but to reason, and because the United States, whenever a crisis has arisen, has never failed to demonstrate her good sense, there is every hope that at this particular time she will support the British nation in her preparedness effort.

"The finest thing we did this year was the somewhat belated but strong-handed action at Oran. It raised our prestige as much as the Dakar episode and our general treatment of Vichy has lowered it. . . . Oran was no half-measure. We want more action of a similar kind."

THIS is no time for half-measures. In diplomacy, economic warfare and military operations, we have to go all out.

The brilliant successes of our Air Force are due to bold tactics. In this war, whenever the Royal Navy has been given its head, our seamen have won success by similar methods.

Why, then, the apparent hesitancy and vacillation of our diplomacy?

We had a sharp lesson from Japan, which rewarded our temporary closing of the Burma Road by joining the camp of our mortal enemies.

Another example is our dealings with the Men of Vichy.

Too Tender

Are we persisting in tenderness towards these traitors? They have betrayed their own people as they have betrayed us.

In every direction they have acted against British interests, which are also the interests of France in the long run, in order to curry favour with their German and Italian masters.

They prevented many French soldiers, sailors and airmen from joining us to continue the struggle.

It is known that hundreds of their airmen would have flown their own machines over to Britain if they had been allowed.

Instead, French aeroplanes are used to bomb Gibraltar and kill British subjects as a so-called reprisal for the Dakar incident.

We seem to blow hot and cold towards Vichy. British subjects of military age in France are prevented from leaving, while we repatriate any Frenchman who wishes to return to Vichy-controlled France.

According to the official communiqué issued after the Dakar episode, we sent back the entire crew of a French submarine after the vessel had been caught red-handed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (UP).—Diplomatic and military observers here are closely watching for any sign as to the position Spain will take in the "new European order" which the Axis powers are attempting to create.

Many informed quarters believe that the course taken by the Franco government may prove decisive in determining the outcome of the present European hostilities. The shifting of the centre of military activities to the Mediterranean region has given new impetus to Madrid's role.

Military observers generally are agreed that any full-scale Axis attack on Gibraltar, Britain's guardian to the gateway of the Mediterranean, cannot be attempted without the use of Spain as a base of operations.

NOT IN POSITION

Axis naval forces are not at present in a position to attempt an assault of the "Rock" and their aircraft, while capable of inflicting considerable damage, would apparently have little chance of forcing Gibraltar to submit. Aircraft could open the way for an invasion, but they could not "capture" the rocky fortress.

A concerted land and air effort, however, would seriously threaten this vital base, and informed military opinion holds that the Rock could be taken if the attackers were willing to pay the price in men and material.

WHY THE VELVET GLOVE FOR VICHY?

by
Lord Strabolgi

and sunk while trying to torpedo our warships.

In Africa

We encourage and support General de Gaulle and his adherents, and we are helping those French Colonies which succeeded in throwing off the yoke of Vichy.

But when there is serious unrest in Algeria and Morocco, and the Vichy Government accuses the British Government of encouraging it, we issue an official denial that this is so.

If it is right for us to foment rebellion against the men of Vichy in French Equatorial Africa, why is it wrong for us to do the same thing in Algeria and Morocco?

Surely we should use every means at our disposal to encourage the inhabitants of the French overseas Empire to join General de Gaulle.

And Indo-China

Observe what has happened in Indo-China.

The Japanese are obtaining complete military control of that rich territory. From it they will be able to threaten both Burma and Thailand, and will have advance bases for possible operations against Singapore.

The local French citizens, Europeans and native, were eager to resist. The Vichy Government had to replace the Governor with one of its own creatures.

What has His Majesty's Government been doing to encourage resistance in Indo-China? The United States of America was willing to help.

Then Dakar. The failure to stop the French warships sailing to Dakar from Toulon, manned by bitter anti-British elements and adherents of the Vichy Government, was due, we are told, to a professional failure on the part of certain elements in the Services to inform the War Cabinet or the First Sea Lord of their departure.

We must accept this information, but it would be interesting to know which department was responsible. Was it the Foreign Office, which is in superior control of all the Intelligence Services, or was the Secret Service itself at fault?

Or did the news reach

Gibraltar, but was not relayed from there?

Though no doubt the easiest place to intercept the ships was the Straits of Gibraltar, once contact had been made in the Atlantic, surely more vigorous action was called for.

The kindest explanation is that our Intelligence Service was hopelessly out in its reckoning, and not by any means for the first time.

If this is the case, and we had not the right information from West Africa, then the sooner there is a complete overhaul of all our various Secret and Intelligence Services the better.

In the last war, our Secret Service, as I had the best means of knowing on the Admiralty War Staff, was admirable. Two men of outstanding personality were in charge of their respective Intelligence Departments.

Admiral Sir Reginald Hall looked after Naval Intelligence, and General McDonagh the military side, and between them they were highly successful.

Have they no successors?

More Sinister

There is a more sinister explanation; and in the national interest it is desirable that the fullest possible information should be given to Parliament and the public, in open session, as soon as possible.

It is being stated in circles which have means of information that there is still a good deal of tenderness in high places towards the Petain Government.

The reason given is the old story of fear that if they fall they will be replaced by a Socialist, Communist or other Left Wing Government.

The same policy, in pre-war days, hampered our actions and diplomacy in dealing with Italy, especially at the time of Sanctions.

Certain powerful elements were frightened lest Mussolini and his confederates would be thrown out by the Italian people and replaced by a Left Government.

We all know how this same tenderness for "Christian Conservatives" influenced our dealings with Spain, and we may yet eat the bitter fruits of that blunder.

I feel sure the Prime Minister realises that this is no

longer a Nationalistic war. Since the French surrender he must know that we are fighting the Quislings, the Lavalis, the ex-King Leopolds and their like in a number of countries.

These men of Vichy are as hostile to us as are the Nazis and Fascists.

They made their miserable surrender to Germany partly because they were afraid of a revolutionary Government in their own country.

They hate us for continuing the struggle, and also for looking like winners, because this destroys their main argument (for public consumption); namely, that further resistance was hopeless.

Away With Fear

Mr Churchill knows all this, and he also knows that one of our strongest weapons in the future will be to encourage insurrections in the enemy occupied territories themselves.

That being the case, why does he allow certain elements in his own Government to adopt this hot-and-cold attitude towards the Vichy Government?

We need not be afraid of the Vichy Government officially declaring war on us. If it tried to remobilise the French forces under German and Italian command there would be a revolution in France; which would be a good thing from our point of view.

If the Vichy Government committed this final madness, we would at least know where we were. We could tighten up our blockade and there need be no more Dakars.

No Half-Measures

Other French warships have recently been allowed to leave the Mediterranean and pass the Straits of Gibraltar, and at the time of writing I have no news of their intentions or whereabouts.

The finest thing we did this year was the somewhat belated but strong-handed action at Oran. It raised our prestige as much as the Dakar episode and our general treatment of Vichy has lowered it. Oran was no half-measure. We want more action of a similar kind.

OFFICER WHO SAVED B. E. F.

HOW a British officer "probably saved the B.E.F." was told recently.

He is Major William Robert Reeves, D.S.O., of the Tank Regiment, once well known as a runner at Cambridge.

This is the story of his exploit:—

He was in charge of a cruiser tank and three light tanks during the evacuation from France. He took his tanks straight down a road held by Germans.

The light was falling, and the Germans, thinking they were German tanks, let them go through.

Further down the road the British officer found three anti-tank mines. He fired at them. One exploded, but the others did not.

Fought All Day

His regiment removed them by hand and they went on to Gravelines.

Arriving there in the early morning, the officer turned his tank round, stayed there, and fought all the next day.

With his own tank he destroyed seven German armoured vehicles and held the bridge at Gravelines. That probably saved the B.E.F. because if the bridge had gone the situation would certainly have been critical indeed at that time.

The British officer and two of his men were wounded.

Spain's Position May Prove Decisive

By
Otto Janssen
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Some quarters have speculated that the Axis might reach some sort of agreement with Madrid whereby Axis troops would be granted passage across Spain without bringing that country formally into war against Britain. However, there appears to be no indication at present that such an agreement has been reached or is actively being discussed.

BRITAIN'S LIFELINE

The loss of Gibraltar would be a serious, although not necessarily fatal blow to Britain. With the Axis in control of the western entrance to the Mediterranean, Britain's "lifeline" would be cut and Italian warships would be free to move into the Atlantic to join with Germany in attacks of British shipping.

Spain recently acquired complete control of the "international zone" across the Straits of Gibraltar in Tangiers. This action created widespread interest in government and unofficial quarters here.

Spain's entry into the war, or more active collaboration with the Axis powers, might also endanger Britain's alternative route to her colonies and the East—that is, the southern route around Africa. Spain possesses territories along a road part of this route which would be valuable as bases for air and naval

operations against British shipping, and perhaps for land operations against Allied possessions in Africa.

ATLANTIC BASES

Probably the most important of these Spanish possessions, from a strategic standpoint, is the Canary Islands, lying in the North Atlantic off French Morocco. These islands are regarded ideal as bases for aircraft and submarines.

On the African mainland, across from the Canary Islands, lies the Spanish Gold Coast and the tiny colony of Ifni. Farther down the African coast, below the "bulge", are several small Spanish islands, and several possessions on the mainland, including Spanish Guinea. It may be significant that General Charles De Gaulle's "Free French" forces recently attacked and conquered the Vichy-controlled garrison in nearby Gabon territory.

ATTITUDE OF U. S.

The United States maintains cordial relations with General Franco's government in Madrid, and has indicated a desire to create greater friendship between the two countries. Shortly after the Spanish war ended, for example, the United States made a substantial loan to Spain for the purchase of cotton to rehabilitate that country's war-devastated textile industries.

However, any real cordiality in United States-Spain relations would apparently be determined by Spain's attitude toward Great Britain, since the United States now is pursuing a policy of maximum aid short of war to the latter country in its war efforts against the Axis.

Tournament Matches

A.N. Other XI Trounce A.A. Gunners Beat Police "B"

A.N. Other XI 6 5th A.A. "B" 1 KHALSA 3 POLICE "B" 1

A.N. OTHERS accomplished one of their best performances in the league when on the Club ground last Sunday they beat the Gunners 6-1.

During the early part of the game, Others worked out several good openings, but they delayed their shooting and frequently attempted to go one step too far.

However, after 15 minutes' play, Hitchcock found the net with a good shot. This lead was not held for long, for Bigginton soon equalised when he cut through from the right flank and beat Benwell from a difficult angle.

There was no further score when the interval was signalled.

GOAL-SCORING THREE
AFTER the break, Others went on a goal-scoring spree when Anley and Morgan added further goals, and Hitchcock completed his "hat-trick."

Although well-beaten, the Gunners never lost hope, and had they been steadier when within the circle they might have done better.

Words did good work at right back, and it was rather unfortunate that he got hurt during the game; he had to leave the field on the two occasions. Speed and Barraclough were the best of the halves, and Bigginton and Kennedy were speedy attackers.

WELL-SUPPORTED

WELL-BACKED by their defence, there was always danger when Others launched an attack. Gilchrist, on the right wing, sent in some nice centres and received good support from Anley at right inner.

Hitchcock was a thrustful leader and his four goals were a splendid bag for one day.

Annet from the first 20 minutes, the defence was never in danger of being overworked. Benwell had an idle second half in goal with Gunner, Yourlett and McEellan forming a strong triangle in defence.

Owing to the non-appearance of one of the umpires a player was eventually persuaded to officiate.

The All-Indian Police "B" team were at home to Khalsa at Bayndary Street last Sunday and were defeated 3-1. The home team were out to "down" their rivals but in the end greater experience told against them and Khalsa earned their success.

From the initial bully, the visitors took up the offensive, and after heavy pressure Gurbuchan Singh found the net from a pass which came from the right.

Only a few minutes later, Awtar Singh increased the lead to 2-0. The Police defence stood up well to the bombardment and Balwant Singh saved well on two occasions, preventing further goals being scored.

DETERMINATION
THE second half was marked by increased determination by the home team, aided by an easing up on the part of Khalsa. The latter, though still the superior side, were unable to increase their lead, and only on rare occasions did the Police look like reducing it.

However, during a breakaway which followed, Narwant Singh took possession and by some fine dribbling beat Souza with a nice cross drive to reduce the deficit. The visitors had a bad 10 minutes, but recovered to beat off the attacks in a most business-like fashion.

M. H. Hassan, at centre-half, and Mohinder Singh, at left half, gave good displays.

The Khalsa forwards, with their short passing, were still persistent, and Kaminder Singh, in the closing stages, scored the third and final goal.

Awtar Singh led the attack well and Jangner Singh, on the left wing, played true to form.

Narwant Singh, at inside left for the Police, was always forceful and showed much enterprise, but he hung on to the ball too long. He met his match in Kishen Singh.

Mehar Singh at right back and Darbara Singh, the left half, were the pick of the Police defenders.



PLEA FOR PEACE—Pope Pius XII, broadcasting from Vatican City, makes special appeal to Catholics of U. S., urging "peace between the peoples and nations of the world, based on the equitable adjustment of differences." Pontiff spoke in English on Mission Sunday eve.

Tientsin Municipality Search For Revenue

TIENTSIN, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Embarking on the new year with overdrafts totalling large sums and faced with increased staff salaries and higher costs of coal and all imported materials, the British Municipal Council is casting about for ways and means to boost the revenue.

To-day, at an extraordinary meeting of electors, the Chairman of the Council, Mr. James Turner, tabled five resolutions designed to yield \$917,000:

- (1) Increases in existing land taxes;
- (2) Introduction of an entertainment tax;
- (3) Police tax of 3 per cent. assessed in the rental value of all occupied premises;
- (4) Revision of the method of collecting land and rental assessment taxes;
- (5) Collection of all accounts in local dollars at the highest value when payment is tendered.

All five resolutions were passed.

League Badminton

Three Games Played In "B" Division

THREE MATCHES were played in the "B" Division of the local Badminton League last night. St. John's and King's College scored double victories over the Police and Jewish R.C. respectively, while in the third, the Kowloon C.C. beat Kowloon Tong 6-3.

F. H. Kwok and J. Chen were the most successful pair for Kowloon Tong, winning two of their three games. The other was won by Peter Lo and J. Tsang.

Scores were:

ST. JOHN'S v. POLICE
St. John's beat Police 8-1.
D. Kwok and H. Eardley beat Major and Sir 21-2, beat Gillies and Gordon 21-7, beat MacDonald and Dingdale 21-0.
R. Maynard and G. Ladd beat Major and Sir 21-9, lost to Gillies and Gordon 21-3.
N. L. Smith and P. Wilson beat Major and Sir 21-2, beat Gillies and Gordon 21-7, beat MacDonald and Dingdale 21-7.

K.C.C. v. KOWLOON TONG

Kowloon Cricket Club beat Kowloon Tong 6-3.
P. Winter-Blyth and A. L. Fisher beat F. H. Kwok and J. Chen 15-11, beat Lo and J. Tsang 21-10.
L. Anderson and H. S. Jones lost to Kwok and Chen 8-21, beat Chan 21-4, 21-10 and Tsang 21-17.
D. Harell and A. E. P. Guest lost to Kwok and Chen 11-21, beat Chan 21-3, lost to Lo and Tsang 18-21.

WIN FOR KING'S COLLEGE

King's College beat Jewish Recreation Club 5-1.
S. Ramley and L. Landau lost to S. E. Chau and C. J. Awtrey 12-21, lost to Lo and W. C. Chung 12-21, lost to K. H. Lo and T. Lam 3-21.
A. H. Lo and W. C. Chung lost to Chau and Awtrey 12-21, beat Lo and Chung 21-17, lost to Lo and Lam 3-21.
B. Rodkin and J. Odell lost to Chau and Awtrey 12-21, lost to Lo and Lam 10-21.

Y.M.C.A. FIXTURES

The following European Y.M.C.A. fixtures have been arranged:
To-day, Squash, 6 to 11 p.m.; Swimming (water heated).
Friday, Badminton; Mixed Swimming 3 and 4 p.m.; Saturday, Hockey (3, and 4.30 p.m.); Swimming (water heated); Tennis, 9 p.m. Discussion Group (Xmas Carols); Tennis; Swimming (water heated).
Monday, Women's War Work, West Lounge, 9 a.m. to 12 noon; Swimming (water heated) and Swimming Instruction.
Tuesday, Badminton, 8 to 11 p.m.; Mixed Swimming 6 to 8 p.m. (water heated); Billiards Match Night, 7.30 to 11 p.m.
Wednesday, Women's War Work, West Lounge, 9 a.m. to 12 noon; Swimming (water heated) and Swimming Instruction; Chess Night, 8 to 11 p.m.

LAVAL FREED

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Reports from Vichy suggest that the strenuous efforts by Herr Otto Abetz, the Nazi Ambassador, to rescue Laval from political disgrace have met with some success.

Laval was received by Marshal Petain yesterday "to discuss the general situation" and was also present during part of the talk between Petain and Abetz.

Presumably Laval was released from the house of detention to which he was reported to have been confined since his dismissal from the Vichy Government.

Left Paris

VICHY, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The mystery about Laval's whereabouts was cleared up this afternoon when a semi-official announcement stated that he had left for Paris "in his private capacity."

Chinese Gift To British

For Air Raid Victims

CHUNGKING, Dec. 19 (Reuter).—The British Ambassador, Sir Archibald Clark Kerr, has received from Dr. Wang Shin-chien, President of the Sino-British Cultural Relations Association, a bank draft for £1,842, representing a contribution toward the relief of suffering in the United Kingdom caused by German air raids.

The sum is donated by Chinese members and friends of the Association, who state that they wish to express their great sympathy for the suffering people of England.

Brazil And Canada

RIO DE JANEIRO, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—President Vargas has signed a decree empowering the establishment of a Brazilian Legation in Canada. This makes effective the recent Brazilian-Canadian agreement for an interchange of Ministers.

French Envoy To Nazi Paris

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Comte Fernand de Brinon to-day formally assumed the post of French Ambassador in Paris, according to a Vichy dispatch to the German news agency.

The appointment was made by Marshal Petain in accordance with a decision taken at yesterday's cabinet meeting.

Comte de Brinon thus becomes a full-fledged Ambassador six weeks after his appointment as the permanent representative of the French Foreign Minister (Herr Laval). He has long been known for his friendly attitude towards Germany.

As Vice-President of the French-German Committee, he was received by Goebbels in February, 1939. The visit was considerably criticised and he subsequently denied that he had been sent to Berlin on a mission for the French Government.

BERLINERS HAVE TO EVACUATE

Effect Of R.A.F. Raids

LONDON, Dec. 18 (UP).—The Minister of Economic Warfare, in a statement to-day said that 950,000 German children are among the mass of evacuees which the heavy R.A.F. bombings have forced to leave Berlin, Hamburg and towns in the Ruhr district going to south Germany, Austria and German Poland.

He declared that the Germans are scrambling offener and louder regarding the increasing inconvenience resulting from the R.A.F. raids.

HITLER PERSUASIONS TO WIN VICHY FLEET & ARMY

(By "Reuter's" Chief Diplomatic Correspondent)
LONDON, Dec. 18.—The crisis at Vichy does not appear to be over. Under German pressure, Laval has been allowed his liberty but he has not been reinstated in office.

The interview between Marshal Petain and Herr Otto Abetz, the Nazi Ambassador, must have been dramatic. Abetz probably endeavoured to convince the Marshal that Laval had been murdered and that he had never conspired with Abetz against Petain's security or the interests of the state. Reports that Laval favoured permitting the passage of troops to Italy are not confirmed from any indisputable source. If the Germans wished to send troops hurriedly to Italy they would use the Brenner pass.

Conciliation Policy

A decision to break through Unoccupied France is improbable as it would be in opposition to the German policy of the past few weeks, the object of which has been to secure the full collaboration of France in place of Italy. Hitler knows that his troops could enter Unoccupied France at any moment, but it is far more important for him to have the French Navy and the French Colonial Empire on his side.

Hence the gentle methods employed in dealing with Marshal Petain and the use of self-seeking politicians such as Laval and Blundin. So far, however, Marshal Petain has resisted all German blandishments.

Nazi Missionaries In S. Africa

5th Column Activities

PRETORIA, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Measures against fifth column activity in South Africa were announced by the Minister of Native Affairs to-day.

The Government has ordered the removal to other areas of 400 German missionaries who entered the South African native reserves after 1935 because some of the missionaries are carrying on subversive propaganda.

WAR WORK FOR GERMANY

In Occupied France

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The French Government has no power to control French labour in German-occupied France and there is good reason to believe that factory workers there are being forced to work for German war requirements.

This information was given to-day by Mr. R. A. Butler in the House of Commons, in reply to a question.

He added that some workers may have been removed to Germany for that purpose. As far as the British Government knows, there is no conclusive evidence that factories in unoccupied France are being used for repairing German aircraft. This matter is not covered by the Franco-German armistice.

Mexico To Improve Air Fields

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 18 (UP).—Mexico's 1941 budget will include a 10,000,000 peso appropriation to condition and improve 250 air fields, the newspaper "Ultimas Noticias" says.

The newspaper says the government desires gradual development of Mexico's commercial airlines network.

Some observers believe that the budget announcement was the result of plans by the Pan American Airways to establish a route from Los Angeles to Mexico City. The New Pan American route has been tentatively approved and awaits final action by the Civil Aeronautics Authority in Washington.

Hitler's Talk To Officers

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Hitler to-day made a speech to 5,000 officer candidates for the army, air force and storm-troops, who have just been promoted to officer rank.

The text of his speech, which was delivered in the Berlin Sportsplatz, has not been published but the official news agency says that the Fuehrer gave the young soldiers the watchword for the duties which lie ahead of them as superiors in the National Socialist Army and for the adjustment of their lives.

Field Marshal von Brauchitsch, Commander-in-Chief of the German Army, spoke afterwards and pledged the Army's loyalty to Hitler.

Ten-Ton Tanks By Air

The Germans are claiming to have devised means for transporting ten-ton tanks by air.

This information does not perturb the War Office. These tanks are only small and are scarcely bullet-proof.

Our own research in this direction is well advanced.

The Italians are using tanks for their advance into Egypt, but here their machines are at a disadvantage. These tanks were designed for mountain warfare in Abyssinia, and have great gripping power on the surface. This gripping power was an advantage over the hard, rocky ground of Abyssinia, but on the smooth sand of the Egyptian desert it is a drawback.

More Insulin Now Being Made

Stocks of insulin in Britain are sufficient for two years, states Dr. R. D. Lawrence, physician in charge of the diabetic department of King's College Hospital, writing in the "British Medical Journal."

In addition, fresh supplies are being made by British manufacturers. Dr. Lawrence advises insulin patients, in case circumstances arise when local distribution might be temporarily upset, to have a month's supply in hand. He also urges them to carry with them the information that they are diabetics taking insulin, and the kind and dose they should receive.

Duchess Of Kent's Sister Escapes

Countess Tooting-Jettenbach, sister of the Duchess of Kent, has escaped from the Nazis, and is safe with her other sister, Princess Paul of Jugo-Slavia.

The Duchess of Kent heard this news recently.

Countess Tooting, whose home is in Munich, has had her movements restricted for some time. The Nazis are thought to have suspected her of pro-British sympathies. Her husband is serving as an officer with the German Army.

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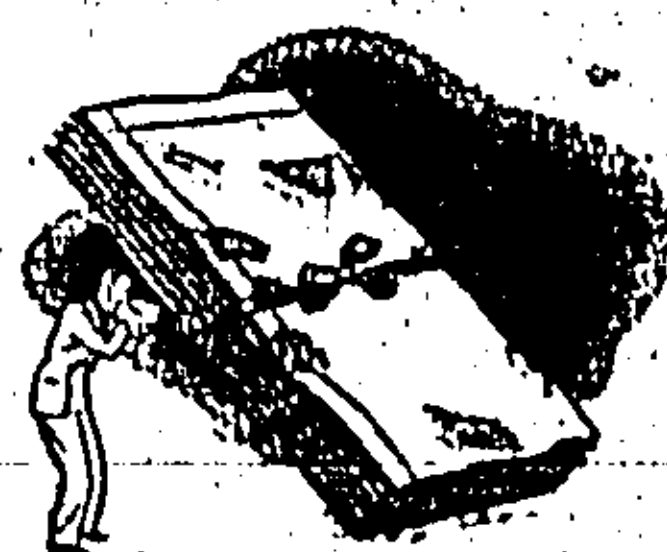
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"Pilgrim's" Hockey Notes

TEAM-WORK, MARKING & TACKLING

Phases Of Game That Should Be Learned

SOUNDNESS IN DEFENCE

SOUND TEAM WORK will defeat clever individualism every time. Even moderate players, if they know the secret of teamwork, may improve their personal play appreciably provided that they recollect that hockey is a game with a small ball which is so easily intercepted by an opposing half or full-back.

With this point in mind, if the ball is passed and re-passed rapidly and all the halves follow up closely, and if a forward has lost the ball in a tackle, and his own half is up in an attempt to retrieve it, it enables him to go through or to put another forward through instantly without any slackening of speed.

Proper sympathy and understanding as between backs, half-backs and forward promotes the real team work.

The science of marking is better understood in practice by modern players than by those of the older generation. Defences have vastly improved and are stronger and more effective in marking. It is one of the fundamental elements of the game to mark your opponent closely. The player has to watch where the ball is and what his opponent proposes to do. He must be in readiness to roll any attempt to get the pass to one of the other side.

Weak marking brings a stronger attack upon their own goal, for when a forward is soundly covered he can be easily put out of his usual game. Wing halves should mark their respective wing forwards, the centre-half the centre-forward and the full-backs pay their main attention to the inside forwards.

If there is bad marking in the half line it throws greater responsibility and work on the full backs and the goalkeeper.

Tackling

It is a big playing asset to one's team to be a sound tackler. The main point is to know the right moment when to tackle and how to carry it out skillfully. A sound and efficient tackle means a good deal to your side.

To be a successful tackler you must focus your eye on the ball and utilize your wrists. Then again, anticipation is highly important. The player who has this gift at once becomes a dandy sure tackler, and to the full-backs and halves, it is a primary function.

To the full-back, the lunge stroke is valuable. Hesitant tackling by either of these sets of players, or the adoption of a retreating movement reveals unsoundness.

K.C.C. Bowls Team

Kowloon Cricket Club will meet United Services Recreation Club in a lawn bowls match on Saturday at U.S.R.C. at 2.30 p.m. when the following will represent them: A. H. Martin, F. Wellwood, A. Wright, J. Fraser, C. Tribble, D. Wyllie, V. C. Labrum, W. W. Parsons, A. W. Smith, C. J. Tschudi, G. E. Taylor, Reserve, R. B. Capell.

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AT CLUB GROUND, KING'S PARK



A MOMENT of action during the Tournament League hockey match between the 5th A.A. "B" and A.N. Other XI at the Club ground last Sunday. A.N. Others won easily by 6-1.—Ming Yuen.

UNIVERSITY PLAY MACAO AT HOCKEY & BADMINTON

MACAO, Dec. 18.—True to tradition, Macao displayed much enthusiasm in the hockey matches which took place here yesterday and to-day and large crowds were present. The visitors consisted of the team of the Hongkong University.

In to-day's game, the University lost by three goals to nil against a team of the Macao Hockey Club consisting of 1st and 2nd Division players. Both teams were in fine form, and the game was brisk from start to finish.

Early on, Macao showed a definite superiority and had the better of the exchanges. The front line attack had lost none of its prowess and combined understanding with the defence. The University had hard work to withstand the many thrusts of their opponents.

However, the Hongkong side seemed on the point of drawing blood when Tan broke through, but his last shot went wide of Macao's custodian. Fred Noloso made a brilliant individual effort in the lightning dash past the University defence, but tripped at the moment of scoring. Soon after, Rosario sent a fine angle shot toward Gupta, who anticipated accurately and cleared.

Some ten minutes before the interval, the home team secured the first goal following a short corner when Fred Noloso directed the ball between the posts.

Further Goals

UPON RESUMPTION the energies of the University defence were taxed to the utmost as there seemed to be a continual storming of the University citadel. Working in fine combination on Macao's left flank, Rosario passed to Angelo who centred to Gustavo Silva and on his swift manoeuvre past Low, Silva sent a flying ball into the net.

But for Gupta's keen eye, more goals would have been scored by Macao. Alex Airosa all but scored when an extremely fast ball rebounded from the post.

In his new position on the forward line during the second-half, Airosa acquitted himself splendidly, and following some clever stick work he slashed a terrific shot which found the net.

The University's defence merited the highest praise, Low and Tan being inspiring throughout. Hans Raj, Chin and Ho persisted splendidly and were unlucky to meet with the unbreakable resistance of Ferreira and Trigo Silva.

University—Gina: N. H. Low, Khor: Singh, Low, Tan (Capt.), Tan, Chelliah, Hans Raj, T. Chin, H. P. Ho. Macao Club: Almada, Santos, Ferreira, Alex Airosa, J. Noloso, Trigo Silva, Soares, Fred, Noloso, Albert Airosa, Gustavo Silva, Angelo, Rosario.

Victory Over Macao Lyceum

IN YESTERDAY'S encounter, the University defeated the Macao Lyceum by one clear goal. At the commencement the visitors seemed to be all too keen on individual play, but some good passing was observed as the game progressed.

The teams were very evenly matched and Macao was particularly strong with Almada, Trigo Silva and Lelito the half-back trio. Rocha and Arnaldo Silva were conspicuous on the forward line with Gustavo Silva and Rodrigues leading the attack.

Before the interval, a ding-dong battle featured the game, but resuming, Tan, Chelliah and Hans Raj pressed constantly against the home goal area, and before long, following a general melee, Hans Raj took a fine chance and registered for the University.

University—N. C. Gupta: N. H. Low, Chin, T. Chin, Low, Tan; L. H. Tan, Chelliah, Hans Raj, Amplanvar, Ho Hion-fah. Macao Lyceum—R. Loo: J. Noloso, J. Noronha, Almada, Trigo Silva, Lelito, Rocha, Arnaldo Silva, Gustavo Silva, Rodrigues, Hans Raj—Our Own Correspondent.

DECISIVE BADMINTON WIN FOR UNIVERSITY

MACAO, Dec. 18.—Macao welcomed the opportunity of meeting the Hongkong University in a badminton contest this evening and despite the fact that it was a one-sided encounter throughout owing to the vast superiority of the visitors, the Macao Club contestants were treated to a real test of their abilities by accomplished players from Hongkong.

The best set that Macao Club could put up was performed by junior players, Rebelro and Rosario, who had to face the crashing drives of Choy and the keen gilly of Amplanvar.

The match was a walk-over for the University, Macao losing all the sets.

Scores were as follows:—W. H. Choy and S. Amplanvar beat H. Noronha and Trigo Silva 21-1, 21-0. Alfred Silva and Albert Jorge 21-6, 21-0. R. Rebelro and S. Rosario 21-13, 21-0. T. T. Chin and S. L. Yung (Capt.) beat the respective Macao pairs 21-0, 21-11 and 21-5.

C. K. Chen and M. S. Lim won by 21-7, 21-6 and 21-12.—Our Own Correspondent.

Rugby

Club "A" Beat Navy "A" In Second Half

AFTER a scoreless first half, Club "A" beat Navy "A" by 9 points (three tries) to 3 (a penalty goal) in a game of rugby at Happy Valley yesterday.

Poor running and passing might be said to have cost the Navy the game for their pack was dominant throughout. They took their 3 points' lead early in the second half when Hughes scored with a penalty kick, though in the first 10 minutes of the game he had missed a similar kick from in front of the posts.

Alec Pearce gave Club their first points when he wriggled over with an opponent hanging on, and it seemed the turning point of the match for thereafter Club were all over their opponents, and further unconverted tries were scored by Bosanquet and D. Hynes.

Teams were: Club—M. Thompson: Bosanquet, T. A. Pearce, D. Hynes, Needham, Charter, Dicks, Redman, Castleton, B. Hynes. Navy—Mid. Noel: S/Lt. McGill, P. O. Wilson, Mid. Noel, L.A.C. Gracie, Mid. O'Hara, E. A. Wilson, L.A.C. Stockham, Surg. Lt. Jackson, S/Lt. Winter, Yeo, Mitchell, P. O. Jones, A. B. Hughes, S/Lt. Black, A. B. White.

Pony Classification

The following are the alterations and additions to the Hongkong Jockey Club pony classification lists, dated May 22, 1940:

Australian ponies—Combecher, Many Thanks and Sparrow to B. Class; A Great Deal, Leaning Girl, Lovely Girl, Oldford, E. A. Wilson, L.A.C. Stockham, Surg. Lt. Jackson, S/Lt. Winter, Yeo, Mitchell, P. O. Jones, A. B. Hughes, S/Lt. Black, A. B. White.

Random Jottings

A Reply To "Umpire"

SINCE "UMPIRE" has found it necessary to comment on my Random Jottings, I again take the pleasure in using this column for his benefit.

"Umpire" seems annoyed at the facts published, and states that the Umpires Association holds no responsibility for the arrangement and cancellation of fixtures, etc. No one accuses the Association for such, but the umpire who were informed of the cancellation of a certain match should have informed the Secretary of the Umpires Association, and he could have informed the Press.

That is where my reference to co-operation comes in. If some of the umpires are not guilty of gross negligence, I should be pleased if he would clarify the following incidents which took place and do take place very week-end—since he seems to be defending the Association on his own.

December 1.—Two umpires failed to appear at a certain game. The excuse or apology has been given to the representatives of the teams concerned by the Umpires' Association (I suppose "Umpire" thinks that this is for the good of the game).

In another game on the same day one umpire was missing though during an important fixture elsewhere five umpires were present.

8th December. In a certain fixture one umpire appeared and he consented to do the match himself. No statement has been made by the Umpires' Association yet.

15th December. One umpire failed to appear at a morning League game and, after a delay of 15 minutes, a spectator was called upon to officiate. I hear on good authority that the missing umpire was busy joining an Army game.

I COULD mention several other cases since the season commenced, but I suppose that "Umpire" would say that this was detrimental to those who are doing their best.

My point is this: since those incidents do occur there must be a lack of co-operation among the umpires and the Association. One cannot blame the Hon. Secretary as his job is not all "honey", and I know for certain that he does his best and that he is often let down by certain umpires at the last moment. I hope "Umpire" is not included among these.

Personal remarks on Umpires I do pass on occasions, but I do always make it a point not to mention an official's name when he is condemned for bad umpiring.

Mr. J. T. K. Gilchrist came in for special comment and he deserved it. Whether he attends the umpires' meetings is no concern of mine, but I do know that he is officially nominated by the Umpires' Association and that he has been umpiring since the days of the Makak Tournament which is not merely two years ago.

"Umpire" should not sever his connection with the Association just yet for if he does it is obvious that the public will certainly find out who he is as those officials have their names published every week-end.

In my estimation I am very doubtful whether many will join "Umpire" if he does.

Since "Umpire" has been blowing a whistle for the last two years, and I presume, he has been a reader of my notes, he ought to know who first suggested the Umpires' Association.

Older readers of this column will appreciate that I have always given the umpires every practical sympathy and support. It has been a firm rule that an adverse criticism of his qualifications shall be published but if such incidents as stated above do occur, it affects the teams that participate in the League and as such calls for attention.

The Umpires' Association and its members, good sportsmen and volunteers, take upon themselves their weekly self-imposed duties of controlling the matches, so far as present numbers allow, and I was only suggesting in my notes a week ago that these duties should be well done.

However, I am not suggesting for one moment that "Umpire" was involved in any of the incidents published, but I would remind him for the love of the game, "If the cap fits, put it on."

LEAGUE fixtures for Sunday next

Gunboats v. A.N. Other XI (Navy ground), 10.30 a.m.
5th A.A. "B" v. Police "A" (Lyemun), 11.30 a.m.
R.E. v. Recrelo (Sookunpoo), 11 a.m.
Khalsa (Police ground), 10 a.m.
University v. C.B.A. (Pokfulam), 4 p.m.
Punjabs (Marina), 4 p.m.
Signals v. Police "B" (Sookunpoo), 4 p.m.

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FOUR YEARS MORE—President Roosevelt in front of voting booth at Town Hall, Hyde Park, N. Y. Mrs. Roosevelt is at left, with President's mother, Mrs. James Roosevelt. President's bodyguard, Thomas Quarters, at right. President was re-elected for four more years.

Future Relations With British Empire Speculated In U.S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (UP).—Aid to Britain "short of war" has led to United States-British relations of such cordiality as to inspire widespread unofficial speculation and comment concerning the manner and means of closer co-operation after the coming of peace, or in event of long-continued struggle.

The popularity of Mr. Winston Churchill in America, the destroyers-versus-bases deal, and the general popular feeling that the British Navy is one of the forward defenses of the Monroe Doctrine, have inspired new currents of sentiment and new lines of industrial and commercial interest, of which the political significance might become apparent only after the European war has reached a major climax.

For the first time in history, American popular preoccupation has been with the "British Empire," as distinct from Great Britain alone. This tendency followed apprehension in early months of the war that the motherland might be battered to prostration by Nazi air attack, in which event the Royal Navy or the Royal Family, or both, might establish themselves in North America.

That earlier fear was largely dissipated in recent weeks when the Royal Air Force showed amazing powers of resistance. American interest in the British Empire was also quickened when Japan joined the Rome-Berlin Axis, as this event appeared to create a greater necessity and likelihood of British-American naval co-operation in the Pacific.

Sentimental ties of the American people with Australia and New Zealand have grown notably stronger during the war period.

Trade Figures

The economic background of the American-British sympathy was strikingly illustrated by a Department of Commerce statistical report covering the first year of war, ending September 1, when the United States exports to British Empire countries were valued at \$1,740,000,000 and represented 44 per cent. of all United States exports. In August of this year, 65 per cent. of all United States exports were going to Empire countries.

The shipments to British Empire countries during the first year of the war exceeded United States exports to all countries in the acute depression years of 1932 when total exports were valued at \$1,611,000,000 and 1933, at \$1,675,000,000.

During the first year of the war, purchases by the British Empire from the United States were divided as follows: \$779,974,000 by Great Britain; \$222,593,000 by Canada; \$63,143,000 by British India; \$76,036,000 by Australia; \$84,316,000 by the Union of South Africa; and \$113,081,000 by all other British countries.

These figures compared with United States exports in the calendar year of 1939 as follows: To United Kingdom, \$505,227,000; to Canada, \$493,450,000 to British India, \$42,-

813,000; to Australia, \$61,554,000; and to South Africa, \$70,376,000.

Future Prospects

The trend of war-time events has suggested the prospect that commerce with British Empire countries may stabilize at between one-half and two-thirds of the United States' total trade. Since the United States is already virtually eliminated from continental European markets by blockades and self-imposed embargoes, her trading area is practically confined to Latin America, the Pacific and the Indian Ocean.

In the event that Japan's Axis connections should lead to disruption of United States commerce with Japan, this country's foreign commerce would be confined virtually to the British Empire and Latin America. Trade with the Empire would be threefold that with Latin America.

South American countries obviously have numerous complementary commercial interests with United Kingdom, and a trilateral relationship of South America, Great Britain and United States was a characteristic feature of world commerce in the decades of relatively free commerce.

New Trend Indicated

If events of war should lead to permanent Axis domination of Europe with consequent indefinite isolation from sea-borne world commerce, experts point out that the smaller bloc of world trading powers might find it convenient to consider measures hitherto undreamed of for improvement of financial and commercial relations.

Several indications of such a trend have already been seen. First, impelled by necessity, Britain traded base sites to the United States in exchange for destroyers; the United States promptly assured other American republics of their right to use these base sites. Hence the entire transaction attained a definitely triangular aspect to the common advantage.

Secondly, the triangular economic relationship between United States, the United Kingdom, and the Latin Plate countries recently has been widely commented, and may become the motivation of official steps. The United States desires to aid Great Britain and has credit resources with which to expand exports to the Latin Plate; Latin Plate countries in turn

FATHER DIVINE

—Acquirement Of New "Heaven"

WHITE PLAINS, New York, Dec. 18 (UP).—Followers of Father Divine, Negro cult leader, have acquired a new "heaven" in exclusive Westchester County—about two miles from the borders of the John D. Rockefeller estate.

The property is a 60-acre estate and mansion. A deed transferring the property to 33 joint tenants, many of whom are associated with Father Divine's movement, has been filed. The estate was formerly the property of Leo S. Bing, a member of the large New York real estate firm of Bing & Bing. Purchase price was \$36,000. The property is assessed at \$170,000.

Directly opposite the property is the estate of the Duchesse de Talleyrand, the former Anna Gould. The historic old Washington Irving House is about a half mile distant.

Among the joint tenants listed in the deed transfer were Nicholas Moses, Peace Love, Daniel Conquer, Queen Elizabeth, Martha Faithful, Merry Martha, Love Patience Job, Positive Spirit, Blessed Virgin Mary, Victory Front, Radical Child and True Vocabulary.

desire to maintain exports to Britain in maximum volume and are net debtors to Great Britain; the latter country in turn needs foodstuffs and raw materials but cannot maintain normal credit relations with the United States because of restrictions imposed by the Johnson Act.

Important Aspect

Normally, many countries of South America are competitors with the British Dominions in markets of the United Kingdom. The Dominions "sheltered" themselves in that market by the Ottawa agreements. Under war-time conditions all historical bases of commerce may be disrupted because of unprecedented conditions in finance and shipping.

Relations between Washington and London therefore became of transatlantic importance to the countries that rely on sea-borne commerce.

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HONG KONG

BRITISH BOMBERS ACTIVE ON ADRIATIC: DURAZZO RAIDED

ATHENS, Dec. 18 (UP).—British bombers have extended their range of action on the Adriatic coast and again attacked Durazzo, whence the Italians are shipping troops in an effort to establish a secondary defence line to be held in the event of the southern line from Valona to El Bassan to Lake Ochrid collapses.

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

Five Persons Killed Last Week

In the Colony of Hongkong, including the Island, Kowloon and New Territories, during the week ending at 8 a.m. last Saturday, there were altogether 73 traffic accidents, as the result of which five persons were injured.

Of those killed, an 8-year old boy was knocked down and killed by a public car while crossing the carriage-way, and four Chinese male bus passengers died from injuries received as the result of a collision between vehicles.

Of the injured, nine were pedestrians who were struck by vehicles while crossing the carriage-way.

A bicycle rider, a tricycle rider and three bus passengers were injured as the result of collisions between vehicles. A lorry passenger was injured on falling off a moving lorry.

Three bus passengers and four tram passengers were injured while alighting from moving buses and moving trams, respectively.

Of the accidents, 23 were collisions between vehicles, 20 were collisions between vehicles and pedestrians, and 21 were due to other causes.

More Refugees In Colony

An increase of 93 persons is shown in the latest figures issued by the Medical authorities of the number of destitutes in Government camps here. The figures for December 14 are given below with those for December 7 in brackets.

King's Park 1,304 (1,311); Matlau-chung 1,198 (1,159); North Point 1,400 (1,405); Morrison Hill 538 (538); Tai Hang Squatters Camp 2,557 (2,557); Ngau Tau Kok Squatters Camp 795 (795); Kam Tin; 1,047 (1,787); Fanling Children's Camp 293 (293).

Soldiers.—Argyle Street 701 (701); in hospital 20 (20).

The grand total for December 14 was 10,659, as compared with 10,566 on December 7.

Miss Harrop Opens Bazaar

The Chinese Handicraft Co-operative Society held their first bazaar at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce yesterday. The sale was opened by Miss P. Harrop, Lady Assistant at the Secretariat for Chinese Affairs, who is Chairman of the Committee.

She cut the ribbons with a pair of silver scissors presented to her by the Committee in honour of the occasion.

Attractive trays, screens, figurines, cocktail sets and vases in lacquer were on display, besides carved wooden figures, and carved ivory articles. Silver lacquer plaques of the map of China with a portrait of the Generalissimo inset, should prove popular.

The proceeds of the sale will be devoted to work for the 60 refugee women being looked after by the Society, which teaches them to make lacquer-ware, do embroidery and so on.

Articles made by these women were on sale at the bazaar, and patrons were invited to give orders for things in any size and of whatever colour they desired.

The bazaar will be continued to-day and to-morrow from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

IMMIGRATION LAW

POSSIBILITY OF AGENCIES BEING ABOLISHED

Questioned yesterday regarding the rumour that the 21 agents appointed by the Immigration Department for the issuing of application forms for re-entry permits and residential permits would be abolished shortly, the Immigration Officer, Mr. R. A. D. Forrest, said that he was not prepared to make any statement until certain details were worked out.

Application had been made to him by some of the agencies for the extension of their activities, said Mr. Forrest, but he had warned them not to make any long-term commitments as they were liable to be closed up at short notice.

Pogradetz Height Taken

A United Press message from the Pogradetz sector states that the Greeks have captured an important mountain to the west of Pogradetz and are consolidating their advance. Greek artillery prevented the Italians from fortifying their positions. The Italians did not attempt a counter-attack on Tuesday, and the Greeks remained inactive.—United Press.

Greeks Take Kilauro?

Frontier reports state that the Greeks captured Kilauro at 9.30 a.m. to-day.—United Press.

Athens Denies Capture

A military spokesman denied to-day that either Tepelini or Kilauro had yet been captured.—United Press.

Clear Path To Berat

Athens, Dec. 18. The Greeks are smashing onward despite snow drifts and blizzards. It is said that the most important fighting is around Kilauro where the Italians are retreating from the Skivovik Mountains.

A spokesman to-day attributed the "remarkable resistance" of the Italians to strong reinforcements 10 miles east of Tepelini. However, the Greeks, by a bayonet charge and hand-to-hand fighting, had dislodged these.

Kilauro is the last important fortified position between Kilauro and Berat, 20 miles to the north, and is a major supply junction.—United Press.

Evacuation of Tepelini

Athens, Dec. 18. The important towns of Chirmara and Tepelini in Southern Albania are now being evacuated by the Italians who are leaving behind large quantities of materials which have been accumulating for the Italians for several months.—Reuter.

German Help At Hand

New York, Dec. 18. About 50,000 German troops are concentrated at Naples and Bari in Italy with huge quantities of war material, according to messages received here from Belgrade. It is claimed that the reports are from a reliable source. Whether the troops are intended for use in Libya or Albania is not known.—Reuter.

Chinese Helps Bomber Fund

The South China Morning Post yesterday received from Mr. Ho Kom-long the following letter, with accompanying cheque:

"I send you herewith another donation (namely \$1,000) towards the Bomber Fund in the hope that it will contribute towards your \$1,500,000 objective by Christmas."

A total of \$1,498,414.14 was received yesterday by the War Fund inaugurated by the S. C. M. Post Ltd., with the following donations:

M. C. S. T. Shrapnel Box (2nd)	\$14.62
Auxiliary Nurses and V.A.D. Gift	55
Match	25
American Tea at European	10
Y.M.C.A.	102
P. M. O.	25
Alexander W.	50
Mr. D. Buchanan	50
Gordon's, Ltd. (third monthly donation)	10
"N" (further donations)	4.60
Mr. Ho Kom-long (second donation)	1,000
"Blackout"	3

REFUGEE SOCIAL WELFARE

The Hongkong Refugee and Social Welfare Council gratefully acknowledges the following gifts to their "1941 Appeal Fund":

The Swatow Drawn Work Co. (per Mr. Tsai) \$100; Lient. P. N. Litney, R.A.M.C., \$50; the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, \$50; the Kwong Wah Athletic Association (per Mr. W. J. Brown) \$101.

The net proceeds of the football match between Kow Wah and Hongkong Football Club, played on Saturday, December 7, at the Police Sports Ground, were \$37.50. All other expenses were met by the Kwong Wah Athletic Association.

The Council is very grateful to the generous gift to its funds, and especially to Mr. W. J. Brown (President of the Association) who organized the match in all its details; to the Police Sports Board who very kindly lent the Ground for this occasion; and to all those who attended or sent donations.

for use in Libya or Albania is not known.—Reuter.

Bari is on the Adriatic coast, Naples on the Mediterranean in the same latitude.

ITALY MAY BE NAZI VICTIM

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The possibility of a Nazi seizure of Italy is discussed in a Times leader to-day, which states:—"For two years past and more than ever since the war began Italy has been honeycombed with Nazi agents of every description, known and unknown. The Nazi pre-invasion methods of infiltration and permeation utilized so successfully in Norway and Holland have certainly been practised in Italy."

"In place of the much-cavorted drives against Gibraltar or Constantinople Hitler may seek to reach the Mediterranean by a less devious route. If the Italians do not move quickly against the menace from within—and it is difficult to see from what quarter the initiative can come—they may wake up one morning to find that Italy has become occupied territory and that Mussolini hold the rank and status of a Quisling."

Emergency Rice Stock Released

A Necessary Step

That a certain amount of rice, forming part of the reserves held by importers for emergency, has been released by Government for sale locally, was disclosed by Mr. G. S. Kennedy-Skipton, Controller of Food, yesterday.

Mr. Kennedy-Skipton said that the rice which had been released was imported from Indo-China, and it was necessary to allow the importers to dispose of it owing to the danger of deterioration. At the same time it was proposed to use it as a stop gap until other rice could be obtained from places other than Indo-China, where the export of rice had for long been stopped.

Importers, added Mr. Kennedy-Skipton, could only dispose of the rice on the undertaking that they would sell it to the retailers for local consumption, thus keeping the retail prices down, and would replace it within a short period from other sources.

The general market position indicated that within three or four weeks, the import rice prices would fall, he said.



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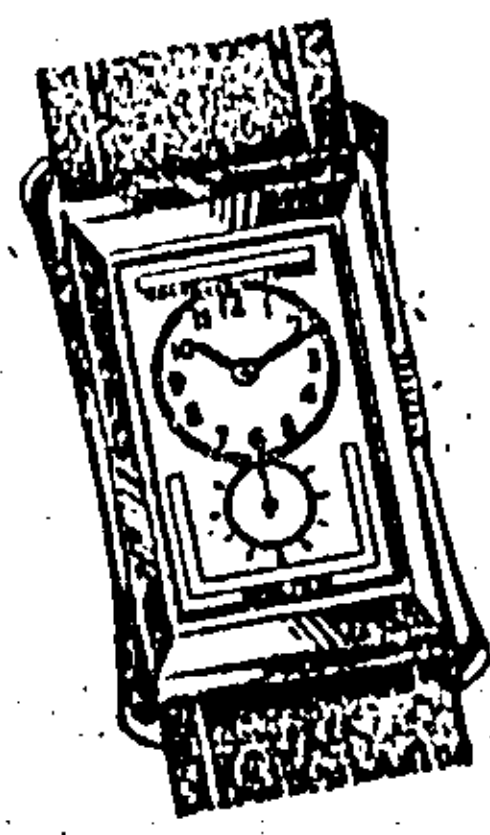


My advice to you all is give a useful, practical gift

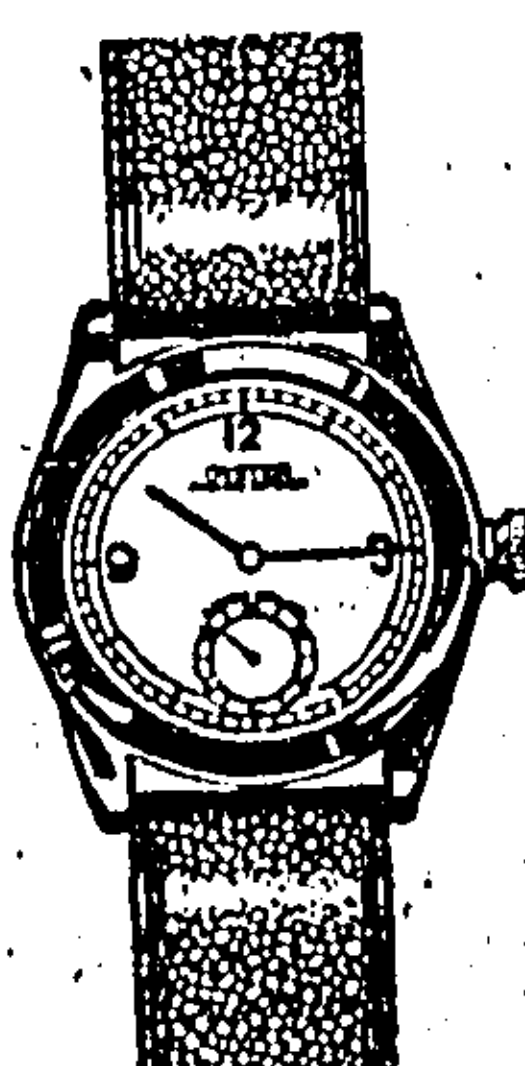
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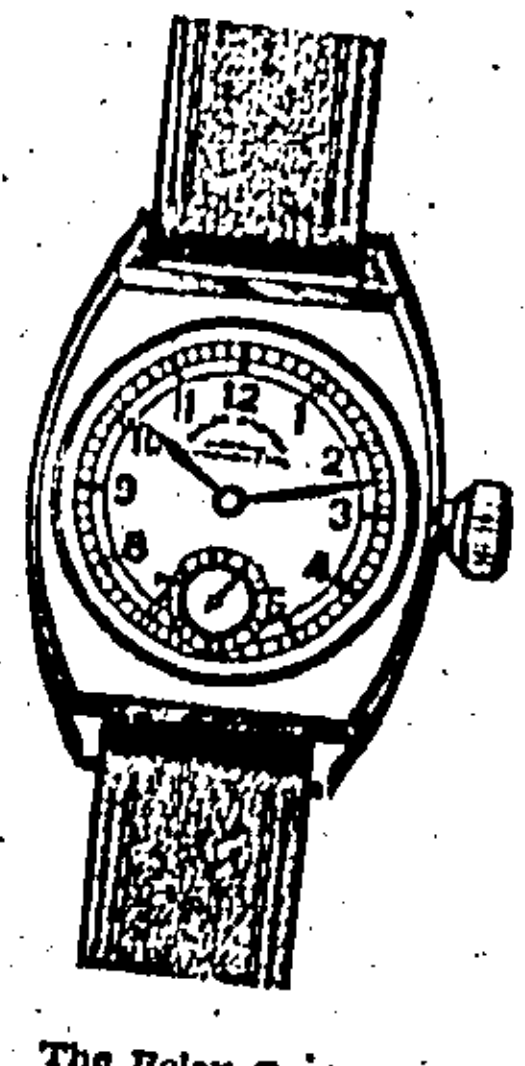
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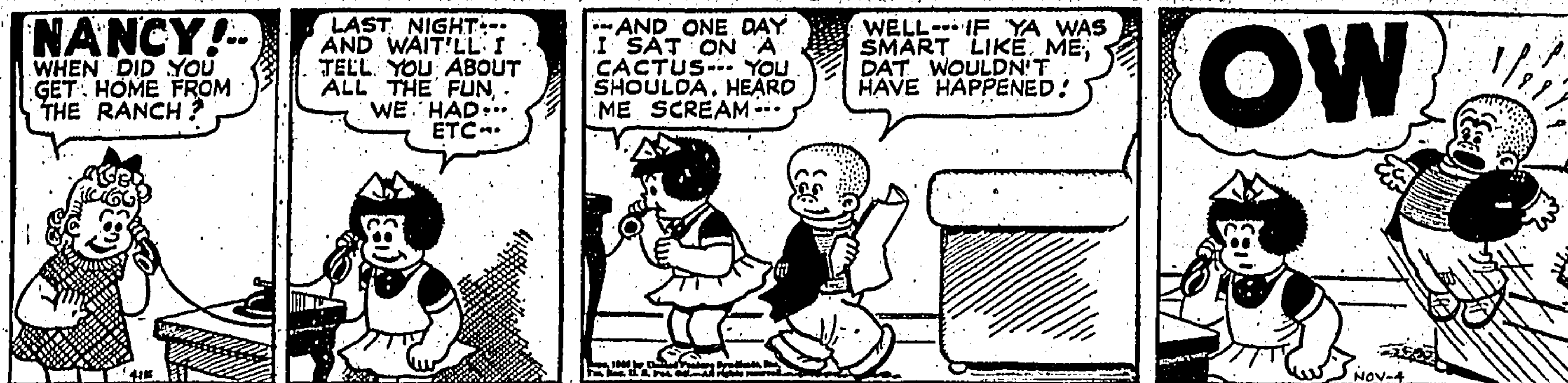


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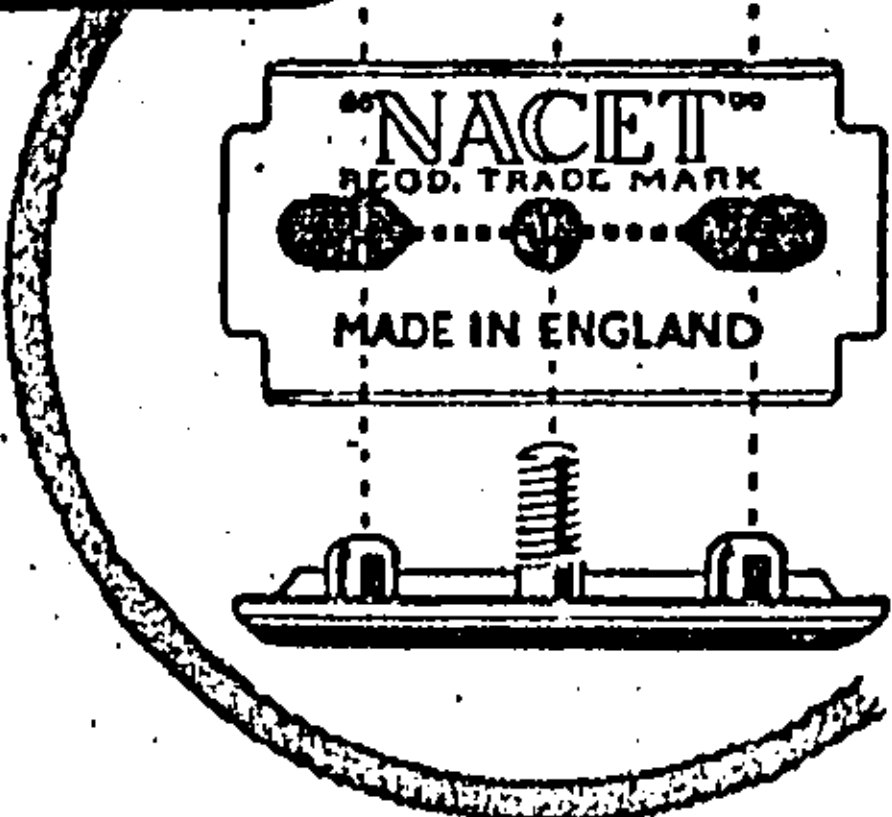
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Empire Sea Routes To Be Better Protected Shortly

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Combating the U-boat menace does not in general present any novel technical problem as it did in the last war, it was stated in authoritative quarters in London to-day in comment on the latest figures of British shipping losses.

THAILAND ARRESTS

Round-Up Of Fifth Columnists

Bangkok, Dec. 18. Two Japanese were arrested on Sunday for photographing prohibited areas.

Their arrest culminates a week's round-up of Fifth Columnists and espionage agents. Eighteen Annamese were arrested at Udorn, 12 at Khonkaen and one at Lao.

A sing-song girl was apprehended at Chienrai and has been charged with espionage on behalf of the French.

The Japanese have been released on bail. A fortnight ago two other Japanese were arrested when taking photographs of the Ministry for Defence offices.—United Press.

Indo-China Round-Up

Hanoi, Dec. 18. French airmen returning from bombing raids in Thailand declare that last night the flames from fires caused by bombings could be seen for more than 100 miles.

More Communists have been arrested in Cochinchina, Cholon and Longuyen, following the distribution of leaflets and posters by the Anti-Imperialism Party attacking the never-ending appetite of Japanese imperialism and blaming the French for appeasing Japan.

One leaflet declared "Indo-China is still supposed to be French but actually it is already Japanese because of Indo-China's policies."—United Press.

British Delegation Well Received

Montevideo, Dec. 18. Toasting the prosperity of the "Glorious British Empire," Dr. Guan, Foreign Minister, at a reception to the British Trade Mission today said all hoped for the "final definite triumph of moral chivalrous virtues always shown by the British people."

Speaking at a Chamber of Commerce lunch to the Mission, Dr. Charlone, Vice-President, said Uruguayans sympathized with the ideals for which Britain was fighting. Popular enthusiasm for the Mission is unabated.—Reuter.

INDIAN VOLUNTEERS

Shanghai, Dec. 18. Indian residents in Shanghai, mostly Hindus, have decided to form a volunteer body of 1,000 members to further the interests of their country. They held a meeting last week under the direction of Mr. A. S. Sahay, a Congress leader living in Japan.—International.

It was pointed out that the sole problem was the shortage of escort craft, which was now being remedied by the inflow of new naval construction and of 40 American destroyers. Although some of the latter were already in service, the number was probably still small as it was believed that their armament was being improved before they were assigned to escort duty. The British Government had now decided to increase the number of aircraft available for defence of sea routes.

Declaring that civilians must do all in their power to ease the burden on British shipping, the Daily Telegraph says that the lack of a sufficient number of escorts of the right kind, aloft and aloft is the sole cause of the heavy mercantile losses. Both the Navy and the Air Force have been stretched out thin to cover vast distances and a multiplicity of demands.

"As their numbers increase," adds the Telegraph, "we may be confident that the revival of the attack on shipping will be defeated as decisively as the former assaults."—Reuter.

French Warship

Fort de France, Martinique, Dec. 17. The French aircraft carrier Bearn, which has been anchored here since the armistice between France and Germany, loaded 600 tons of fuel oil from a Venezuelan source to-day while another 400 tons is to be taken to the Island of Guadalupe.—United Press.

EASTERN OFFENSIVE

British Raid On Kenya Frontier

London, Dec. 18. The renewal of offensive patrolling in the Kenya frontier districts, which was mentioned in yesterday's Cairo communiqué, anticipated the announcement of a successful raid the details of which are contained in a Nairobi communiqué received in London this morning.

The scene of the raid was the important Fort Elwak, situated on the frontier of Italian Somaliland at the junction of four roads usable in dry weather by motor transport.

Announcing the raid the communiqué states: "Our forces included South African and Gold Coast units with armoured fighting vehicles and artillery. The South African Air Force co-operated and dropped two and half tons of bombs. At least 25 Italians, including several officers, and 50 colonial infantry were captured, with at least three guns, some machine-guns, and large quantities of stores and ammunition. Fifty of the enemy were killed, our casualties being very slight."

An air attack was made by one enemy aircraft, which was driven by our fighters. The enemy plane set down its bombs on sighting our fighters. Early on Tuesday morning one Caproni was brought down by our planes.—British Wireless.

SHANGHAI MURDER

Outspoken Criticism Against Chungking

Shanghai, Dec. 18. Scathing denunciation of acts of terrorism allegedly employed by Chungking was made to-day by the North China Daily News in an editorial comment on the brutal murder of Judge Edouard d'Hooche, by declaring, "a Government which seeks to further its own ends by criminal methods is unworthy of its name."

Pointing out that Shanghai has been "profoundly shocked" and is "highly indignant" that such a crime should have been committed, the North China Daily News declared, "It is being freely stated that the French official was killed for motives of revenge for the part he played" in aiding in the transfer of the Second District Court in the French Concession to Nanking.

Stressing that no other motive can be possible, the paper declared, "that being the case, it is not difficult to determine who may be responsible for this dastardly outrage." The paper added that the only conclusion which can be drawn is that the murder was committed by adherents of the Chungking regime.

The North China Daily News then asked, "Did the slaying of the late Mayor Fu Siao-en prevent his office from being filled by a successor? Is it to be believed that Judge d'Hooche's position with the French Municipal Council will not be filled by another official equally loyal to his duty as was the murdered man? Those who understand the quality of courage in men and that their reputation cannot be deterred from doing what they think right, fully realise the utter stupidity of such behaviour. It accomplishes nothing, save perhaps to encourage further criminality."—Domel.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Hongkong Stock Exchange Official Summary, issued yesterday says: "The market is quiet with a firm undertone. The following dividends on Philippine Gold shares are reported."

Buyers	
Masbates .01 ctvos.	
1. X. L. .02 ctvos.	
Sellers	
H.K. Banks \$1,305	
Union Ins. \$180	
Wharves \$395	
Docks "O" \$18.10	
Docks "N" \$17.40	
Providents \$5.60	
Hotels \$3.50	
Realities \$3.75	
Lights "O" C.D. \$7.40	
Lights "N" C.D. \$7.05	
Sandakan Lights \$11.20	
Ropes \$7	
Dairy Farms \$19.15	
Watsons \$10.40	
Entertainments \$7	
Constructions "O" \$1.60	
Sales	
Realities \$3.95	
Electricity "O" \$40.50	
Vibro Piling \$7.70	
Sales	
H.K. Banks \$1,305	
Providents \$5.60	
Trams \$17.70	
Telephones "O" \$25.75	
Watsons \$10.00	

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Kamakura Maru Tuesday, 14th Jan.

SEATTLE & VANCOUVER (Starts from Kobe)

Hikawa Maru Saturday, 21st Dec.
SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Hilo & San Francisco

Rakuyo Maru (starts from Kobe) Tuesday, 24th Dec.

NEW YORK via Panama

SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila.

Atsuta Maru Monday, 30th Dec.

HAIPHONG, SAIGON & MADRAS

Hakodate Maru Friday, 10th Jan.
(Cargo accepted for Haiphong & Saigon)

BOMBAY via Singapore & Colombo.

Kasima Maru Saturday, 28th Dec.

RANGOON & CALCUTTA via Singapore.

Matumoto Maru Saturday, 28th Dec.

Kobe & YOKOHAMA.

Nitta Maru Thursday, 10th Dec.

Kitano Maru Tuesday, 24th Dec.

Kamakura Maru Tuesday, 14th Jan.

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SS "President Taft" JAN. 10
SS "President Cleveland" JAN. 24

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ADDED Latest Movietone War News

THE FIRST PICTURES OF THE ILL-FATED
ITALIAN INVASION OF GREECE THROUGH ALBANIA AND
SIDELIGHTS IN THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN—ETC.—ETC.

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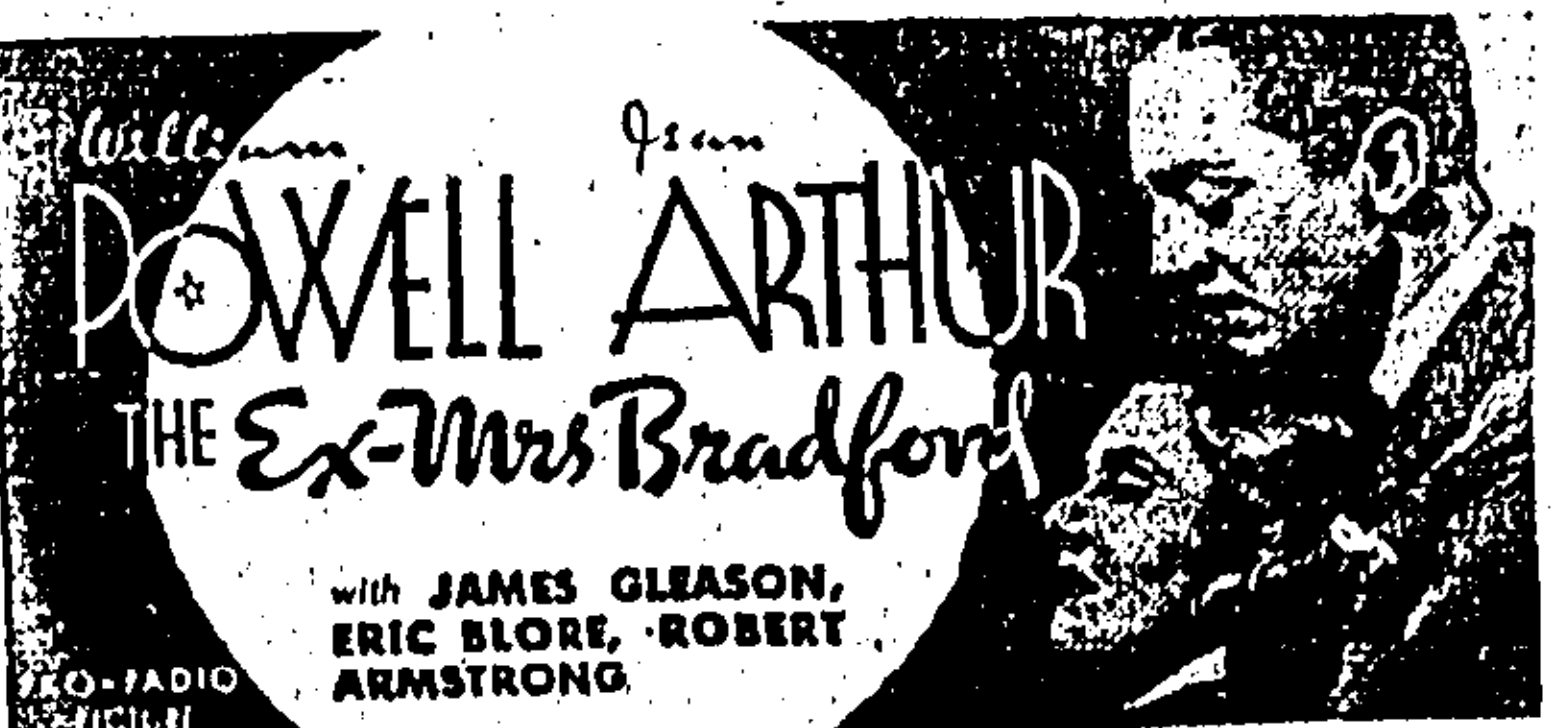
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OUTER DEFENCES OF BARDIA

FROM PAGE ONE

view and made their decisions in a manner which would have horrified old-time conventional generals, but which obviously had the full blessing of General Sir Archibald Wavell. Instead of waiting to mop up each point of resistance, our armoured forces crashed right through in great encircling movements on the theory that a demoralised and surprised enemy force, knowing itself cut off and subjected to continual bombings, could safely be left to surrender.

These tactics were used for Sollum and a number of desert forts.

Enemy Methods

Interesting discoveries were made regarding Italian Army methods. The Italians seem to be very short of metals but show considerable talent for rapid road-making, organising hospitals and foodstuffs. Huge water supplies are efficiently stored at Bugbug.

Their intelligence service is good and their organisation is carefully thought out.

It was only when they came to close quarters with the British troops that they broke, and once the spirit of surrender began among them it spread like a disease.

As one British officer expressed it, "The Italian Army would make an excellent supply column for another army doing the actual fighting."

Our Superior Tanks

Moreover, Italian tanks lost all battles with British tanks partly owing to the dashing spirit of our tank commanders and crews and partly owing to the fact, in some cases, of superior armament.

Many Italian tanks have "Achilles heel" in their rear, where the armament is weakest, and this was quickly discovered by our tanks which repeatedly outflanked the Italians and shot them up from the back.

But in the last analysis, the reason for the British victory undoubtedly was the simple fact that British and Empire troops knew what they were fighting for while the Italians did not.

Long Line of Retreat

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The information that Italian formations are retreating towards Derna is interesting inasmuch as Derna is about 100 miles west of Tobruk, which itself is 60 miles west of Bardia.

It seems, therefore, that the Italians are retreating about 100 miles from Bardia, which is now the scene of the main fighting on land.

The object of the present operations seems to be to isolate Bardia and then to mop it up in the way that was so successful in the cases of Sidi Barrani and Sollum. This would very neatly round off the operations which began at Sidi Barrani.

Indians' Part

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—A New Delhi message says that the Indian troops taking part in the operations in the Western Desert include men from all parts of the country. They were among the first to attack and they captured three Italian camps besides taking part in other operations.

The spirit and gallantry of the Indian soldiers has been remarked by many observers. Under dive-bombing, they remain cool and determined.

NAVAJO INDIANS THOUGHT U.S. ENTERED WAR

SANTA FE, N.M., Dec. 18 (UP).—A tribe of 4,000 Navajo Indians who thought war had been declared highlighted the registration of New Mexico's young men under the conscription law.

The 4,000 young Navajo bucks, reservation officials at Gallup said, were convinced that registration under the selective service law meant they had been drafted for war.

The Indians finally went back to their homes after they signed up, while officials started plans for formation of a special Indian training camp to keep tribesmen together if they are drafted.

Canadian Minister's Escape

FROM PAGE ONE

took flashlight photographs of the liner.

Tribute To Seamen
Mr. Howe added that it was due to the magnificent seamanship of Captain Reid in getting lifeboats away in the dangerous seas and to the skill of the captain of the rescuing ship, that the casualty list was so light.

The crews of both ships behaved bravely and the passengers' behaviour was grand. There was not a trace of panic.

Explaining why his party was perhaps more comfortably dressed than the other rescued passengers, Mr. Howe said that their womenfolk made them take a small case containing their luggage, including a torch, and that they were tormented and these cases were the only things they had time to grab when roused from sleep.

Captain's Farewell

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—How Captain Reid, commanding the Western Prince, went down with his ship, although he could easily have saved his life after the liner was torpedoed, was told by the Chief Engineer.

The Chief Engineer said that when he got the signal "Abandon Ship," he found Captain Reid by a life-boat. Urged to get in, the Captain walked away to the bridge and sounded the siren as the ship went down.

Mr. C. D. Howe, the Canadian Minister of Munitions, said that five life-boats got away safely but the sixth overturned, and it was then that the casualties occurred.

Newly-Weds

The survivors include the Mother Superior of a convent in China and a young novice. The Mother Superior said that both had also survived terrific machine-gunning on the Yangtze.

Three babies, who were hoisted to the deck of the rescue ship, were also among the rescued.

The missing include a honeymoon couple who had returned to their cabin to collect their presents.

Message To Premier

OTTAWA, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The Prime Minister's office has received a message from Mr. C. D. Howe saying "Life-boat overturned while attempting to transfer occupants to the rescue ship in heavy sea."

News of the death of Mr. Gordon Scott and others has shocked Government officials here.

LATE NEWS

GREEKS MEETING RESISTANCE

FROM PAGE ONE

Porto Palermo but are being repulsed with heavy losses.

Yesterday, using captured Italian mortars, the Greeks broke up the Italian rear guard and forced them back on to Porto Palermo.

Report Confirmed

ROME, Dec. 18 (UP).—It has been confirmed that Porto Palermo is still in Italian hands.

Albanian War Position

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Italian resistance in Albania still seems to be strongest in the coastal area and they appear to be still holding on to Porto Palermo which is under Greek shell-fire.

Communications with Valona along the coastal road have been the object of the latest R.A.F. attacks.

Despite fierce storms on Tuesday our planes bombed a motor transport column. It was not possible to observe the full effect of the attack but a number of bombs fell near the column and the vehicles were subsequently machine-gunned. All our planes returned safely.

Topolint is under heavy Greek shell-fire but has not yet been taken.

Very wintry weather prevails in the northern sector with deep snow at 2,000 feet and frequently 18 degrees of frost.

Despite this the Greeks have taken two small hamlets in front of their previous line and many more prisoners and war materials have been captured.

Duce's Propaganda

The anxiety of Mussolini over the effect of events in Albania and the Western Desert on the morale of the Italian people is shown in Italian propaganda. One line is to attempt to cheer the people up by recalling reverses in other wars.

Rome Radio spoke of inevitable ordeals and points out that five years ago things were not going so well in Abyssinia.

On the subject of the war in Albania, Rome Radio said that time is on the side of the Italians.

Defeatists are severely punished. Rome Radio says that the good Italian gets his news from the communiques, that may be but if so he is not very well informed because even now he will know nothing about the capture of Sollum and Fort Capuzzo by the British.

Indo-China-Thai War "Childlike"

FROM PAGE ONE

It is not known what is wanted in exchange for the hostages.

Thai Retaliates

BANGKOK, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The Thai air force has bombed seven towns in north Indo-China in retaliation for French attacks, according to a communique issued by the Thai High Command.

The Bangkok radio claims that three important towns in the province of Cambodia have been bombed "out of recognition."

Bangkok Charge

TOKYO, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Admitting that fighting between Thailand and Indo-China border troops continued, the High Command in Thailand, in a communique, has charged French planes with bombing open towns indiscriminately, according to a semi-official Japanese report from Bangkok.

The communique charged that French planes on December 16 dropped bombs over Sakannakhan, killing eight persons, and also over Udorn, killing one and injuring many others.

It is the fact that both towns are known to be open towns and defenceless against aerial attacks.

Mannheim Again Raided

FROM PAGE ONE

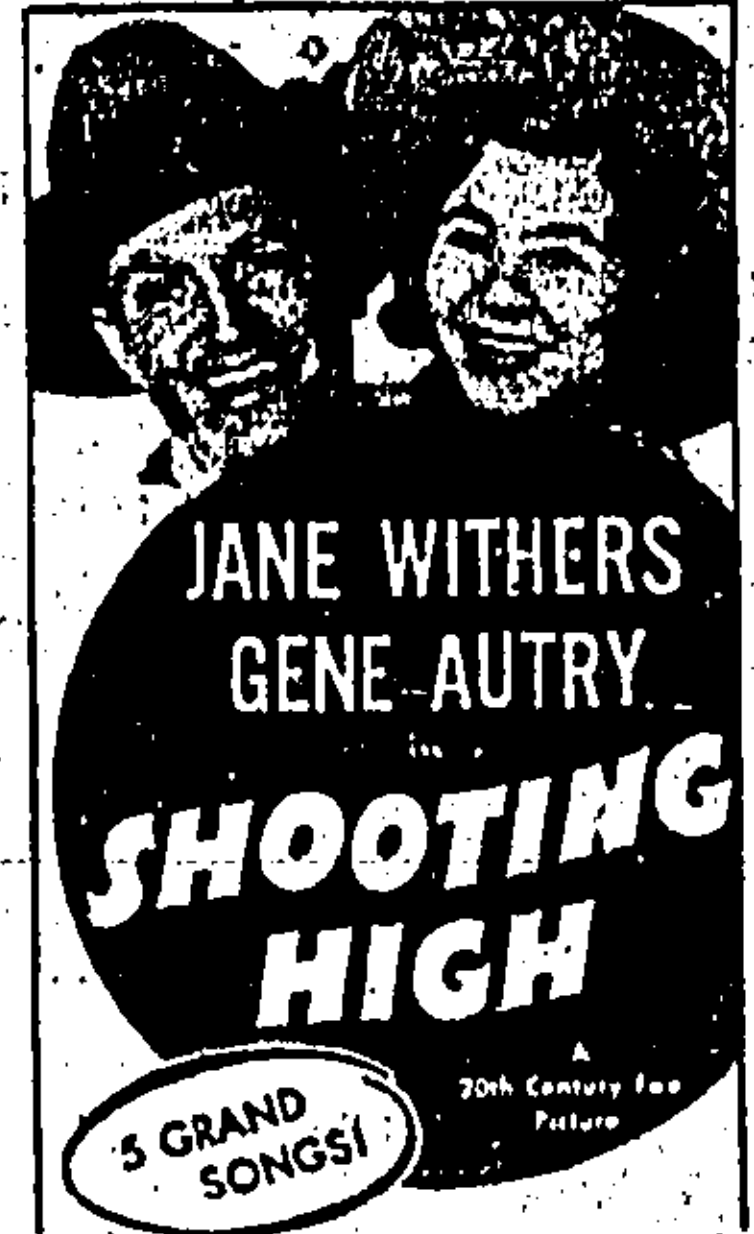
of bed and going to shelters which are lacking in heating arrangements.

According to evidence available in London, the discomfort and harsh regulations are having a greater effect on German morale than the fear of bombing.

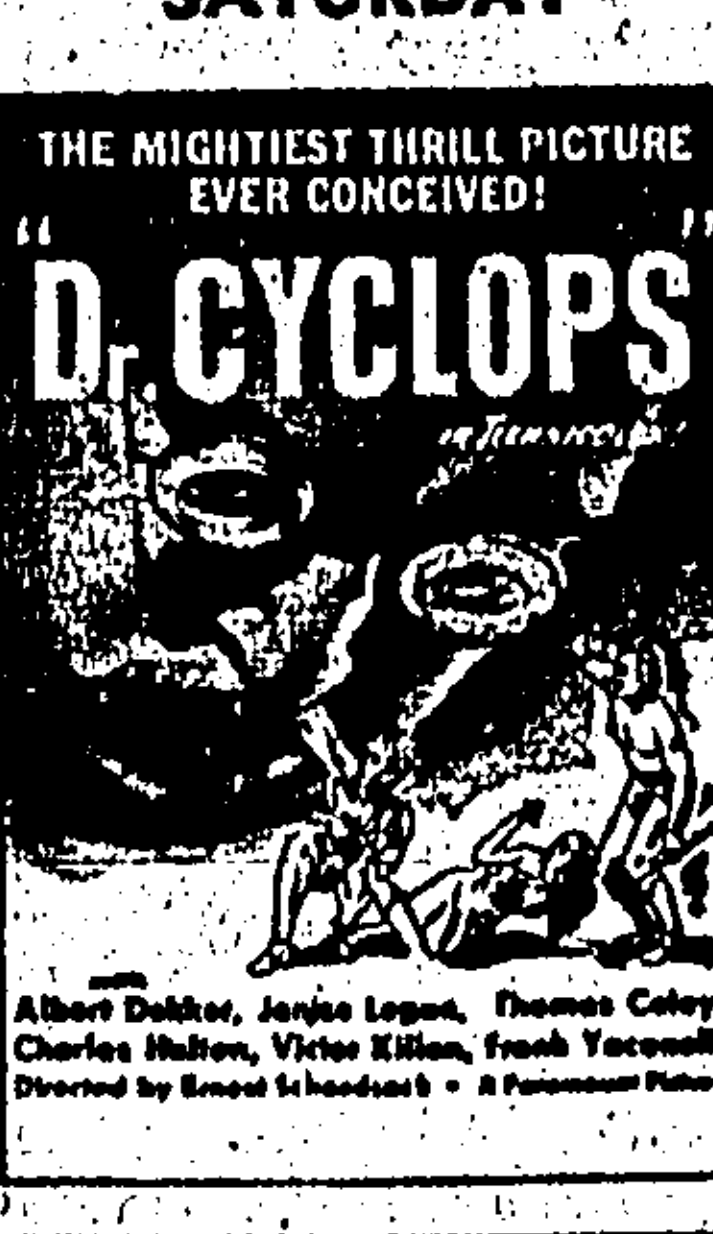
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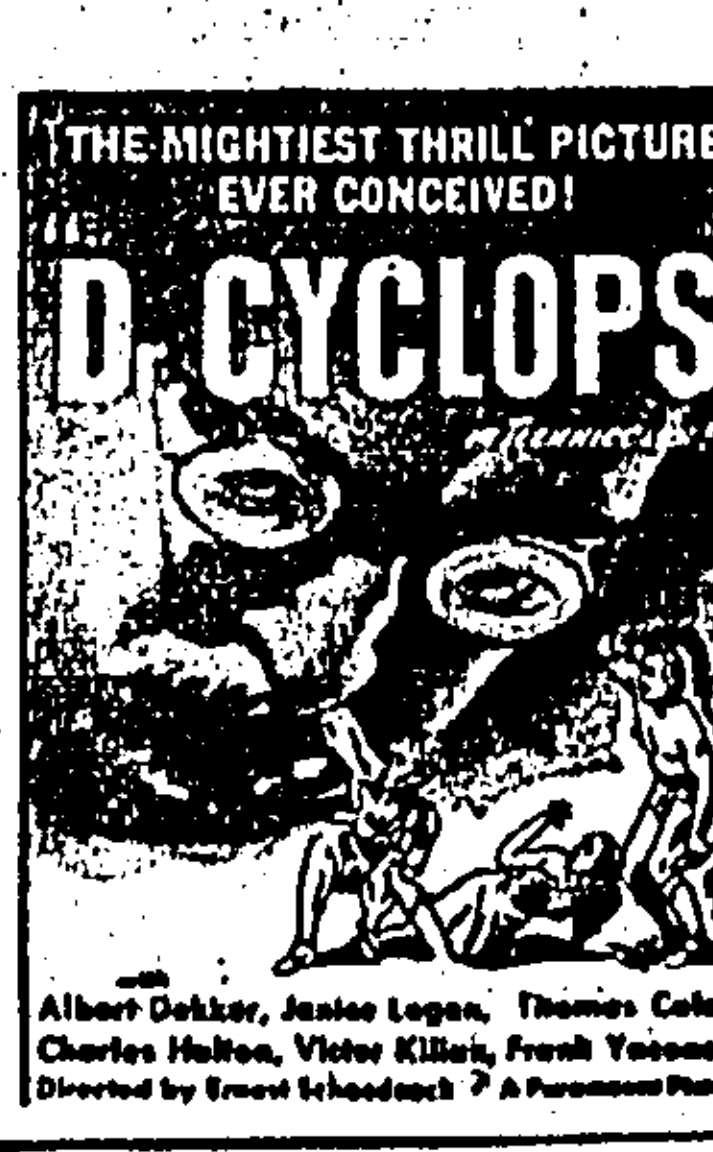
QUEEN'S THEATRE

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TO-MORROW



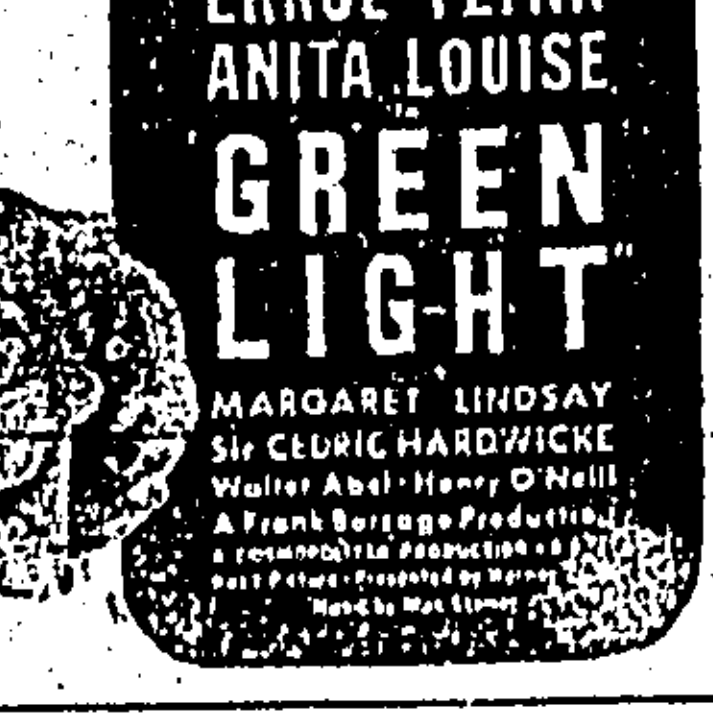
STAR THEATRE

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TO-MORROW



ERROL FLYNN in "ANOTHER DAWN"

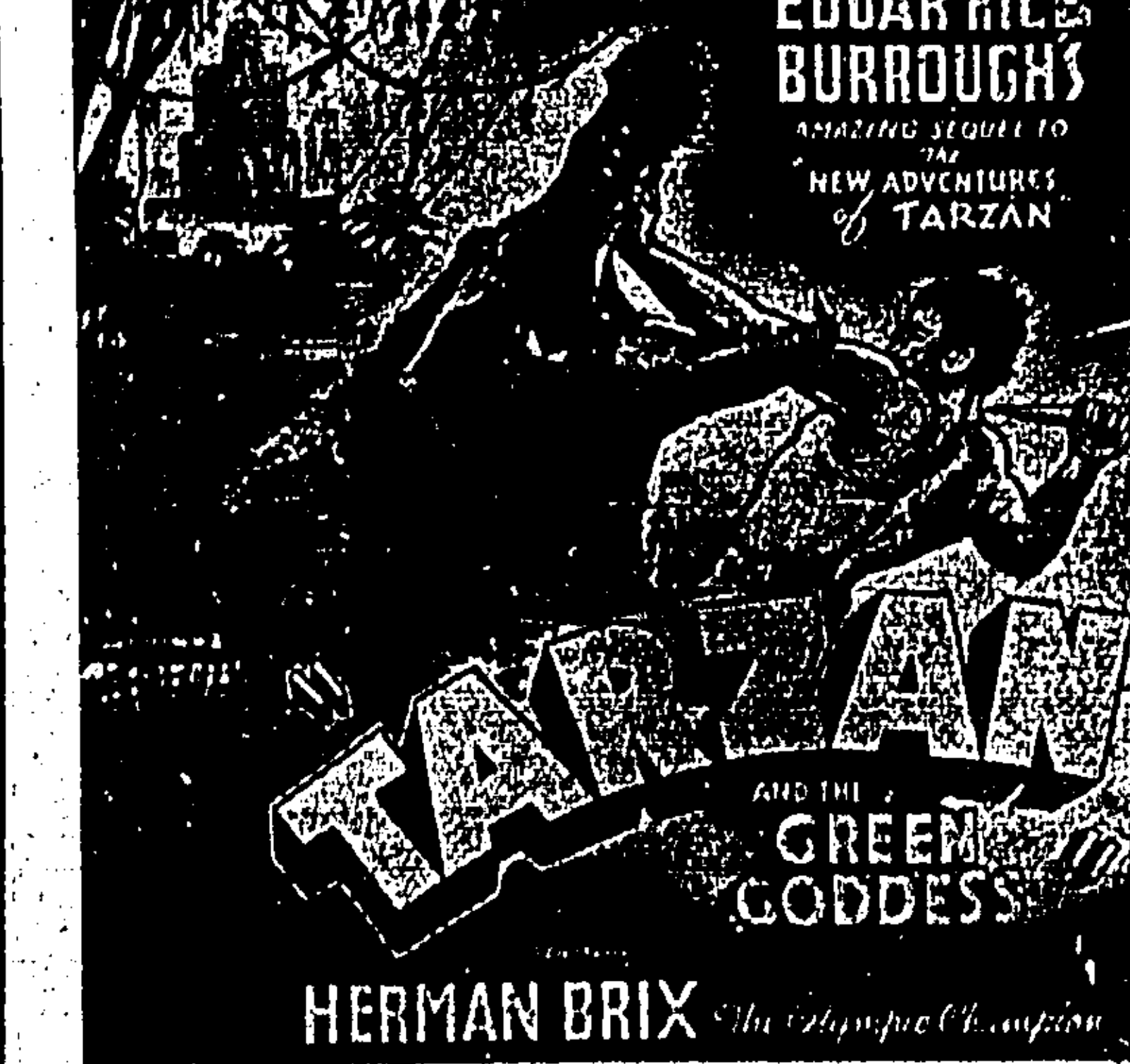
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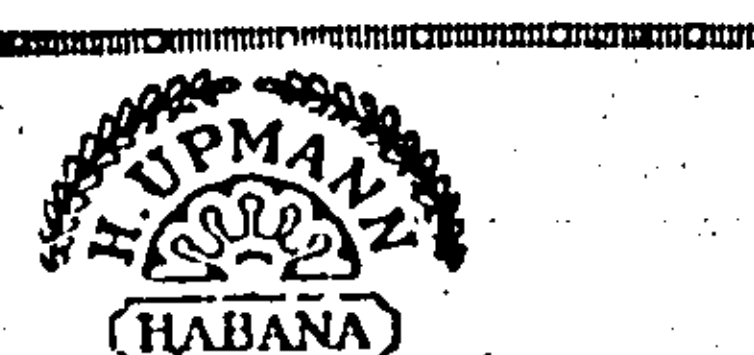


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The Hongkong Telegraph

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ITALIANS RETREATING FROM BARDIA TOWARDS TOBRUK

British Troops Pierce Outer Defences

Italian Somaliland Raided

Special to the "Telegraph"
NAIROBI, Kenya, Dec. 18 (UP).—A communique issued to-day states that the British killed 60 Italian troops and captured 75 in a sudden attack on El Uah to-day, in an action in which the South African Air Force dropped more than two tons of bombs.
"El Uah is on the very border of Italian Somaliland and Kenya to the north-east of the British protectorate. It is a considerable distance from the coast and is south of Abyssinia."
The attack is the first of its kind in this particular area though further to the north the British have made raids on Italian forts in south Abyssinia.

MANNHEIM AGAIN RAIDED

R.A.F. Start Fresh Fires

Special to the "Telegraph"

LONDON, Dec. 18 (UP).—The Air Ministry announced that R.A.F. bombers again attacked Mannheim's industrial targets last night, despite the bad weather.
"Some fires were started during Monday night's raid could be seen still burning, and several fresh fires were started. Other aircraft attacked aerodromes and ports on the Channel coast."

NAZI SHIP SUNK

M.T.B.'s In Action

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

LONDON, Dec. 18 (UP).—An Admiralty communique states that British motor torpedo boats to-day sank a large armed enemy supply ship of between 6,000 and 7,000 tons off the Belgian coast.

U-boat Attack on Convoy?

NEW YORK, Dec. 18 (UP).—The possibility of a German submarine having attacked a British convoy is seen in the intercept of distress signals by the Mackay Radio Corp. pany from two vessels about 400 miles northeast of Scotland.

The calls came from the Dutch steamer Penderick saying she had been torpedoed, and also from the Norwegian steamer Delfin, revealing that she had been attacked. The former vessel said she only had one lifeboat left.

Distress signals were also intercepted reporting that the steamer Napier Star was torpedoed at 1.35 p.m. E.S.T. in latitude 53.59 N. longitude 23.13 W. which is about 600 miles at sea. The Napier Star is an ex-Blue Funnel liner of 1,200 tons.

Full Report

LONDON, Dec. 18 (British Wire- less).—The Admiralty states: "In the early hours of this morning, our motor torpedo boats, carrying out an offensive patrol off the Belgian coast, made a successful attack on a large armed enemy supply ship of between 6,000 and 7,000 tons.

"The enemy ship was seen to break up and sink.

"Five were opened with machine-guns from the enemy ship just before she sank, but this fire was ineffective.

"An enemy escort ship, a vessel of the trawler type, was then engaged by machine-gun fire from our M.T.B.'s and was hit. A torpedo was fired at the enemy trawler and the explosion was felt by our M.T.B.'s and the enemy ship caused firing.

"No casualties or damage were sustained by any of our forces."

18 Fall Prey To Crocodiles

Philippines Tragedy

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

MANILA, Dec. 10 (UP).—The Manila Bulletin reports that 10 people, including several women and children died in the crocodile-infested Agui River, near Mamagan Lahan, when two small boats sank in midstream.

Very few bodies have been recovered owing to the swift currents and the presence of crocodiles, although hundreds have been engaged in searching for bodies.

Special to the "Telegraph"
LONDON, Dec. 18 (UP).—ACCORDING TO THE "DAILY HERALD'S" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN THE WESTERN DESERT, THE ITALIANS ARE FALLING BACK FROM BARDIA TOWARDS TOBRUK.

AT LEAST PART OF ONE DIVISION WHICH WAS STATIONED AT BARDIA BEFORE THE BRITISH ATTACK IS KNOWN TO BE RETREATING.

The "Daily Telegraph" says that the British advanced on Bardia to-night while the R.A.F. bombed, and the navy shelled the town.

Reconnaissance flights showed that part of an Italian division is retreating from Bardia towards Tobruk.

STIFF ITALIAN RESISTANCE

Special to the "Telegraph"

CAIRO, Dec. 18 (UP).—It is learned that British troops have broken through at some points of the fortified perimeter around Bardia, but hard fighting continues, as the attacking forces are encountering strong defence trenches, wire entanglements and concrete pill boxes in the whole area.

Conflicting reports come from Bardia where the Italians are hard pressed, but are putting up a stiff fight. According to the British military spokesman, Bardia is a "fairly tough nut to crack."

It is believed that the town is defended by one division which has been there since the start of the offensive, and which has probably been reinforced by units which have escaped out of Egypt.

A general headquarters communique to-day contented itself by declaring that operations in the Bardia area continue.

RETREATING TO TOBRUK

CAIRO, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Latest despatches indicate that part of the Italian division stationed at Bardia before the British attack is retreating towards Tobruk.

Well Established In Libya

(REUTERS') SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, Dec. 18. —Ten days after the start of Britain's desert offensive, British troops are well established inside Italian Libya.

I have been touring a dusty desert outpost where the army's front line administration is carried out in the compound tents flapping in the wind, travel-stained radio lorries or new dugouts which, until recently, were the pride of the Italian Army.

Brilliant patrol and other military intelligence work contributed to the British victory. For instance, it was owing to the fact that a patrol had previously at great risk located mine outside the camp of Nibela that Indian infantry was able to assist the tanks assailing it without greater loss of life.

Careful planning of the whole campaign was supplemented at the right moment by dash and initiative on the field of action.

Swift Decision

After taking Sidi Barrani, the commanders on the spot took a swift decision and made their decisions in a manner which would have horrified the old-time conventional in our gallies, which obviously had the full blessing of General Sir Archibald Wavell.

TURN to Page 4, Column Three

BARDIA AGAIN BOMBED

Troops Machine Gunned

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

CAIRO, Dec. 18 (UP).—To-day's communique issued by the R.A.F. general headquarters says that despite heavy rains on the Western Desert yesterday, R.A.F. planes attacked Bardia during the day, as well as the night, and started three large fires in the encampment, as well as damaging large quantities of motor transport.

"Reconnaissance flights showed that the enemy is retreating towards Derna. Our fighter machines gunned the retreating troops between Bardia and Tobruk."

The communique said that the aerodrome at Derna was bombed on Tuesday night. In Albania, R.A.F. bombers attacked the motor transport between Santi Quaranti and Valona in a fierce snow storm. Port Sudan was bombed by enemy bombers, some damage being caused. All British planes returned safely from all operations.

Britain Buys U. S. Ships

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (UP).—British shipping interests have bought sixteen old cargo vessels from the United States totalling 146,526 tons, for which they bid \$3,295,000. The Maritime Commission has accepted the bid.

GERMANS CLOSE BORDER, REPORT

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

VICHY, Dec. 18 (UP).—The authorities have denied rumours that the Germans completely shut the interzone boundary during the past 24 hours.

However, it is known that nobody during recent days has been allowed to cross the border except officials provided with special visas.

37 Danish Ships For Britain?

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (UP).—It is reliably learned that the United States is considering taking over the 37 Danish vessels which are now in American ports. It is expected that they will be made available to the British.

It is also understood that legal authority for the seizure is a stumbling block, and it may be necessary to ask Congress for the necessary legislation.

See Back Page For Further Late News

THE WAR FRONT IN ALBANIA



GREEKS HAMMER AT TEPELINI

Local Advances Claimed

Special to the "Telegraph"

BUDAPEST, Dec. 18 (UP).—The Greek radio this evening reported that the Greeks have intensified their hammering on Tepelini, and had made local advances.

The Italians are feverishly strengthening their fortifications at Valona.

Meeting Resistance

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

STRUGA, Dec. 18 (UP).—Frontier reports declare that the Greeks have advanced their right wing along the main Tepelini-Valona road and are pursuing the Italians, who are now about a mile and a half north of Tepelini. However, they are meeting strong Italian rearguard resistance.

The Greeks captured 100 Italians at Palasa, south of Valona.

It is also reported that the Greeks have reached the Tomor mountains which control the town of Berat in the Kilauna-Tepelini sector.

Peril of Avalanches

ATHENS, Dec. 18 (UP).—A new peril faces both the Italian and Greek mountain forces—avalanches. Reports from the central and northern fronts describe the repercussions of the heavy guns is bringing down hundreds of tons of snow and rocks, sweeping men, guns and mules with them.

The report said that crack Italian forces are counter-attacking from Porto Palermo but are being repulsed with heavy losses.

Yesterday, using captured Italian mortars, the Greeks broke up the Italian line.

TURN to Page 4, Column Four

Indo-China-Thai War Called "Childlike"

Special to the "Telegraph"

HANOI, Dec. 18 (UP).—The French have taken the attitude that the border war is stiffening, with French artillery firing an additional 25 shells towards Muk from Savannakhet this morning, making a total of 50 shells against 25 from the Thailand side.

Even the French laugh at this tit for tat child-like border war. It was revealed this evening that last Sunday, natives, after murdering M. Olivier, the French keeper of the Pouloob light-house, kidnapped Mrs. Olivier

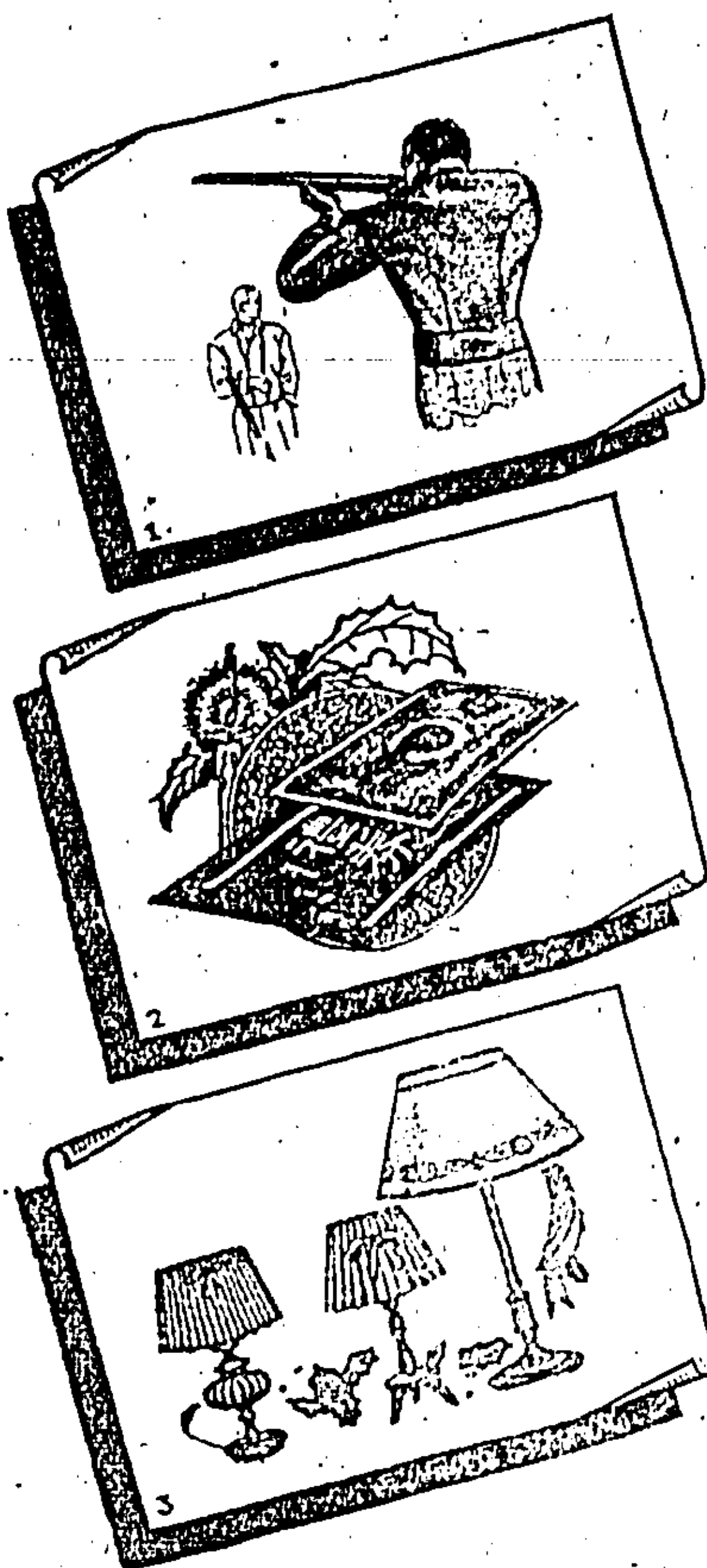
and her baby, who were taken by junk to the mainland and are now being held as hostages in the jungles.

Rescue parties have been unsuccessful in their searches for the pair.

TURN to Page 4, Column Three

Wing On Suggestions

It's fun to give something out of the ordinary, something the others didn't think of—and here are a few suggestive hints.



1. If he's a man of action, give him an action fit coat in suede or capeskin, lined with rayon body and sleeves. It's a gift of gifts for sportsmen.
2. If you're not sure of the best way to strike his or her fancy, play safe and send a Wing On gift certificate. The recipient presents the certificate to any Wing On store in China, chooses the things he or she wants, to the full value of the certificate.
3. Lamps are delightful presents for the house. The cheery glow of a tastefully chosen lamp will be a constant reminder of the thoughtful giver. We have a score of interesting new models in stock.

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Dinner \$8. After dinner cover charge \$4.
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Dinner \$7. After dinner cover charge \$3.

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PHONE 58081

CHRISTMAS NIGHT — Wed., Dec. 25th — Gala Dinner Dance Till 2 a.m.
Dinner \$7. After dinner cover charge \$3.

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PHONE 27775

CHRISTMAS DAY — Wed., Dec. 25th — Special Luncheon 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
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ONCE AMERICAN — British gunners aboard one of the 50 destroyers turned over to England by U. S. sight American Browning gun for anti-aircraft use. Destroyers are now being refitted in British ports.

DEFEATISM RIFE IN GERMANY

A PICTURE of a weary nation in Germany is painted by Richard Boyer, correspondent of the New York newspaper "P.M." in the first of a series of articles entitled "Victorious Germany—Land of Gloom," which he has written since returning from Germany.

"At the crest of the wave of German success on June 28, I arrived in Munich. Instead of celebrating, the people were unmistakably sad and quiet, and weary of the victory bells which rang from noon and acquired the sound of a funeral dirge when one looked at the pinched and tired faces of the Germans.

"There were no cheers when the troops passed by. When I expressed surprise at this, one German impatiently said, 'We celebrated once in 1914.'

I found that the Nazis take it for granted that Germany will invade Russia in 1941, and also that high officials believe that war with the United States is inevitable.

"I found food so deficient in quality and quantity," continues Mr. Boyer, "that army doctors declare that new recruits show signs of weakness until they are built up by army diet."

"The most surprising development in Germany is the dead-limbo which is spreading like a plague and infecting increasing numbers with defeatism. If the contagion is not halted Germany itself, even in victory, may go the way of France."

"For ten days before leaving Berlin I sat in bomb-proof shelters. Never have I seen a people with less spirit, with more real depression of spirit. It was not fear, but something deeper, which is what gave the mild bombings of Berlin an importance out of all proportion to the damage done."

They Fear Winter

"Sometimes I would say to them: 'Cheer up, the war will soon be over,' and they would reply: 'Oh, no, America and we will have another terrible winter.'

"Then I'd say to them: 'Your papers say you are defeating Britain,' to which they replied contemptuously, 'Oh, the papers.'

"When I left Germany it was like leaving a prison. Many Germans called and asked me to perform small services for them when I got outside. They begged for food, for stamps. One woman said: 'Take me with you. Hide me in your trunk, do anything.'

"Hitler is Worried"

"More than once Germans said, referring to Hitler's last speech: 'He's worried, you can tell that by the way he spoke.'

"Official Germany is also worried. They predicted that the war would be over in three weeks. This phase proved a boomerang and now the same officials are explaining that Germany is fighting the world's strongest Empire, necessitating a hard struggle."

"For the first time Germans began to feel that Hitler has slipped up. Every day of British air attacks causes more Germans to say: 'It will never be over. We shall have a terrible winter—no food or heat, and bombing every night!'

Thanks For The Buggy Ride!

Latest in sit-down strikes (from America, of course), Mrs. Nellie Kaminsky, of Philadelphia, parked herself in her husband's car and would not get out till he had promised to pay her \$2.10 a week. She took her six-month-old son John along with her. Neighbours fed her, resisted attempts to move the car.

She stayed there for three days. She won. But her husband is unemployed, and still isn't sure that he'll keep it up.

Chief Petty Officer And Tobacco

Frederick Stanley Toms, of Moor View, Honcy, Plymouth, retired from the Navy after twenty-two years' service with an exemplary record.

He was given a chief petty officer's pension, and they were glad to make him a storekeeper in the naval barracks.

He bought a £300 car. A month ago he was driving it near his house when two men hailed him.

What happened then was described by Mr. B. M. Stephenson at Plympton (Devon) Police Court recently when Frederick Stanley Toms stood in the dock. The two men, he said, were Customs officers, of the special inquiry staff from London.

They asked Toms if he had any goods on which the proper duty had not been paid, and he said he had. They found packages containing Navy tobacco and periques (tobacco made up like a sausage and wrapped inessian).

House Searched

The officers told him they proposed to search his house and he raised no objection. They found more tobacco there.

In a shed fitted up as a tobacco factory were a bench showing signs of many cutting operations, fourteen partly-made periques, a dampening board saturated with nicotine, and other things.

Another examination of the car disclosed under the back seat a concealed tray, empty but for a scrap of loose tobacco stem. Toms denied he had ever carried tobacco in it.

This car has now been seized, and will be retained by the Customs," said Mr. Stephenson.

The officers also examined a car Toms had previously owned. They found that a box, which was in the garage showed signs of having been carried under its bonnet.

"This is a very serious case," said Mr. Stephenson, "as Toms was taking advantage of his position to get tobacco out of the dockyard without paying duty."

Toms pleaded guilty. His counsel said he had already been punished by the loss of his job and his car.

But he was fined £225 on the Customs charges, and a further £5 on a summons for being in unlawful possession of Government stores.

WAR OFFICE COLLECTS 4,600 MOTOR-CYCLES

In three weeks, 4,000 solo motor-cycles and 600 combination machines asked for by the War Office have been supplied and are all at work on national defence.

Half the number came from private owners and the others from trade stocks.

HEAD LIBRARIAN SLEEPS WITH

His 500,000 Books

IN the quiet of St James's-square there sits a man who, bombed out of his own home in the suburbs of London, has the harassing job of preserving intact the 500,000 books in the world's most famous subscription library—the London Library.

Mr C. J. Purnell, librarian, has been there for 35 years. He was deputy-librarian when, in the last war, an A.A. shell crashed into the building—and fell on the one spot where it could do virtually no damage.

Mr Purnell rose from his desk and fetched the old-shell out of a cupboard when I called on him, writes a London correspondent. Meanwhile he went on telling me how, when finally he had to leave his own house, he and his wife came to live in a flat behind the London Library.

Many of the 500,000 books in the library are irreplaceable. About 150 of the rarest have been set in a safe place. But around the hundreds of thousands which remain—beautiful, expensive, rare books—the bombs fall nightly.

On The Job

Mr Purnell now sleeps on the premises. Two chambers of his staff are always on duty in the building. They take it in turns to guard from fire by night the books which they cherish by day.

The library needs all the care they give it. On two nights a shower of incendiary bombs fell dangerously near. One fell on the roof of the flat which Mr Purnell and his wife occupy.

Every morning the staff gather up the pieces of broken and splintered shelves which have fallen on the roof. One freak splinter dived into a bay, bounced off a sill, and crashed through a window. It did no damage. I was shown the largest missile which has hit the library during this war—a sturdy piece of steel which became embedded in the roof.

Bright Idea

One excellent notion Mr Purnell has had—he has covered the glass skylights over the central stacks of books with a number of sheet steel shelves which were not being used. It is a clever device to protect sloping skylights.

Mr Purnell smiled when I asked him if he did not feel a shade harassed under the weight of his newest responsibilities. "It's no good worrying about it," is all he said.

He should know. When a bomb demolished a wall hundreds of feet away from his home, a flake of brickwork soared over a house and crashed through his roof. He was standing in a bedroom—"watching the fun"—and it fell within a foot of him.

100 Years Old

The library which he guards is unique. Next year it will be 100 years old.

There is plenty of optimism about the future of the library. Mr Purnell told me of an old lady who had just taken out a life-subscription for her grandson, aged 21. And he told me, too, of the subscriber living in Cyprus who wrote in June asking for books. His letter arrived in September, when the books were promptly dispatched.

Greatest Air V.C. Of Last War

AIR MARSHAL BILLY BISHOP, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., D.F.C., greatest fighter pilot that the last war produced, now a director of Canada's great Air Force training scheme, has arrived in England at the invitation of the Air Ministry.

He said that R.A.F. officers with brilliant records have been drafted to Canada, where they are teaching fighter-pilots-to-be the latest tactics of aerial warfare, learned in the great battle of Britain.

Until a few hours before he took off for his flight to England, Air Marshal Bishop was inspecting pilots, observers and air gunners who will soon be taking part in the fight against Germany.

The expanded Royal Canadian Air Force now numbers about 25,000 officers and men. Eventually the total will be well over 40,000. Some will be used for the defence of Canada; many others will go to Britain.

Short Training

Billy Bishop said: "The training itself has been short. It may be possible later to shorten it more. We will be able to provide the pilots and the crews—I might say an inexhaustible supply of them."

"They are a grand type of young man, magnificent. They are keen, they are mad on flying—thousands of them, all training for service."

He said: "In the last war Billy Bishop made a name a byword by his brilliant and daring exploits. Officially he is acknowledged to have brought down 70 German planes—more than was credited to any other pilot."

"Death Or Blindness" Baby Dies

TWO years ago the parents of five-weeks-old Helaine Colan, of Chicago, were faced with the problem of choosing between her life or her sight.

They left the choice to a jury of 12 doctors, who decided to save her life at the risk of her sight.

A £200,000 X-ray machine—the largest in the world—was used for an operation on her eyes, which were affected by a growth.

But despite the efforts of specialists and scientists Helaine went blind. She had lost her first battle.

Support

People from all over the world wrote to the parents supporting the decision of saving her life.

Helen Keller, famous in American literary circles in spite of her handicaps of being blind and deaf, wrote: "The child has every right to a fighting chance. Blindness is not the greatest evil—only a physical handicap which Helaine's mind can overcome."

Parents Planned

Plans were made for Helaine's future. But gradually the tiny flicker of life went out.

The child for whom millions of mothers had prayed had lost her last battle.

German Propaganda In U.S.

Mr Wright Patman, Democratic representative for Texas, has asked the Dies Committee which is investigating un-American activities to inquire into the activities of Carl Byoir, who is alleged to be the highest-paid German propagandist in America.

Mr Patman, according to a New York message, says that Byoir, who is a lieutenant-colonel in the reserve, received £27,000 in the past 18 months.

Byoir compiled booklets for the Nazi Government, and shortly after he became associated with that Government Nazi propaganda came over by every boat, it was alleged.

Hired By Nazis

"I know these are serious charges, but I can substantiate them," continued Mr Patman. "Byoir was hired by Germany to distribute Nazi propaganda."

Investigator of the Dies Committee have seized books and papers at the New York offices of the Trans-ocean. The child for whom millions of News Service, which was described as a German propaganda bureau. Dr. Zapp, a leading official of this organization, has been ordered to produce the books to the committee forthwith.

Bomb Cured Paralysed Woman

Miss Lily Townsend, an unemployed milliner, of Randolph Gardens, Maida Vale, paralysed her left arm last February by a fall. Now she has been cured by a bomb.

To help Westminster Hospital, where she was treated, she sells flags in the streets. Recently, Miss Townsend was pinning a flag on a girl's costume when a bomb fell near her and threw her violently to the ground.

Back again in Westminster Hospital, she found on regaining her senses that she could move her left arm.

An official at the hospital said: "Surgeons have come to the conclusion that the paralysis was due to an adhesion, and that in her fall when the bomb burst, she unconsciously used her paralysed arm to save herself and so cured the injury."

Goering's 'Suicide Squad' Mend Shattered Nerves In Norway

LARGE numbers of German pilots and airmen are now resting in Norway. They are men who have been bombing London, and according to statements made to a reporter recently by a man just returned from that country, they are far from a happy band.

They are known as the Suicide Squad," he said. "A number are pilots who used to fly passenger planes between Germany and London. Few, however, are volunteers. The daylight raids are referred to as 'death trips'."

The German pilots based in France, Belgium, or Holland, after two or three raids over England, are ordered to fly their machines to airfields in Norway. Even though they fly from a French base on their first raid over England, they do not return to it. They go to a base in another part of France, or to Belgium or Holland.

German propagandists are spreading stories throughout Norway of the imminent collapse of England. A few weeks ago they were saying that invasion was about to begin or had taken place from France and Belgium.

Actually the Germans transported thousands of troops to Norway to train them for the impending invasion. There were many rehearsals on the coast, the troops being taken to sea in small steamers and fishing craft.

"Many of these troops had never seen the sea, much less experienced its behaviour. They went aboard the vessels full of awe. How different was their return. Some had actually been carried ashore. They would have been a pretty fine invading army for the British to deal with."

Although the air pilots admit that their losses have been in excess of what the most pessimistic anticipated, they say that there is no real shortage of materials.

Under Arrest

Recently three young officers of a famous cavalry regiment were ordered to report for training as bomber pilots. The other officers in the mess decided to give a farewell dinner to them. The dinner became known as the "Farewell to the Suicide Squad."

Result, the organisers were placed under arrest, and all who attended were punished by being sent to danger posts.

Norway to-day is being prepared as the jumping-off ground for intensive raids over Northern England and Scotland in the spring.

Looted Everything

"The Germans," said the informant, "have looted everything and sent great quantities of food into Germany. Meat can be had on only one day a week—if supplies are available. Most of the butchers' shops are closed."

Civilians are now living mostly on vegetables they have grown themselves."

SECRETS FROM NAZI SCRAPS

Leakages in the Navy's blockade of Germany, and the effect of the blockade on the German economic system, are being tracked from the wreckage of planes and from odd scraps of enemy war material which fall into our hands.

Every plane which comes down in Britain, every piece of equipment it contains, even the uniforms of German prisoners, are closely examined by skilled technicians.

When they find anything a little out of the ordinary the scientists get to work and changes in manufacture or the adoption of new substitute materials are traced.

Scotsman New Chief At Scotland Yard

A Scot, Superintendent Alec Bell, has been appointed to be Chief Constable of Scotland-yard.

He succeeds Chief Constable John Horwell recently appointed to the Provost Marshal's department of the R.A.F.

To all vacancies among the superintendents the commissioner has promoted Chief Inspector Richard Ivor Rees, who was born in Glamorgan forty-six years ago.

Chief Inspector Leonard Burt, recently appointed liaison officer between Scotland and M.I.5, also becomes superintendent.

Detective Inspector Greeno, the Yard's motor bandits specialist, is promoted chief inspector.



FAMILY PARTING—More than 3,500 Puerto Ricans are in army training in Uncle Sam's tropical outpost. Above, Puerto Rican National Guardsman bids farewell to wife and baby at San Juan.

No Basic Changes Are Needed In The Army

DRASTIC investigation into the part which the British Army played in the three weeks' battle of France has revealed that its organisation was excellent and its weapons first class.

Immediately the French capitulated (writes a military correspondent) a number of committees were set up and examined many witnesses to find out if there were any flaws in the organisation of the British Army.

The evidence has shown conclusively that no basic change is required.

Alterations which are necessary are few and of a minor character.

Great Changes

To meet the demands of modern warfare, great changes had been made in Army organisation between the end of the last war and the beginning of this.

Perhaps the most striking alteration has been the astonishing increase in fire power of the Infantry battalion.

In 1914 this unit had, but two machine-guns; it now has 50, and in addition, carries its own anti-aircraft, and anti-tank guns and mortars.

Smaller Divisions

The Army of to-day believes more than ever that it is better to build a wall of steel than a wall of bodies.

Another considerable reorganisation is the reduction in the strength of a division—a move designed to give greater handiness and in these days of mechanisation, mobility.

Fell From Theatre Circle, Is Accused

Alfred Hartley, aged twenty, of Market-street, Whitworth (Lancs), was accused at Rochdale recently of attempting to commit suicide by throwing himself from the upper circle of the Theatre Royal there. He was remanded for medical observation.

Hartley, who was not seriously hurt, was alleged to have said, "I had been courting a girl and she jilted me and got married last Saturday. I thought of committing suicide, but I changed my mind. On Friday night, while in the Theatre Royal, I decided to smash myself up and get put in the infirmary for a few weeks."

Superintendent French said the woman on whom Hartley fell was badly injured. It was not known how long it would be before she recovered.

BEGGAR'S GIFT TO WAR FUND

Moved by the German atrocities on London, a beggar at the city gate went to Lucknow magistrates and paid in four annas (about 4½d.), the whole of his day's takings, to the Governor's war fund.

He had heard of the raids on London on the radio.

THE TURNING POINT IN CONVALESCENCE

When the crisis is past in illness, recovery may still be a long way off. The real turning point for the better comes when the patient begins to fill out and pick up noticeably from day to day.

decisive factor in that quick recovery is good food. When patients cannot take solid meals and have a disinclination for most kinds of food, doctors give them Horlicks. Horlicks is so light, that the most delicate stomach can assimilate it, so delicious that the most finicky appetite responds to it. It is a complete food in itself, balanced, highly nutritious, full of the elements that the wasted body needs to restore shattered nerves and build healthy tissues.

Keep Horlicks in the house always. You can get it to-day at your store.

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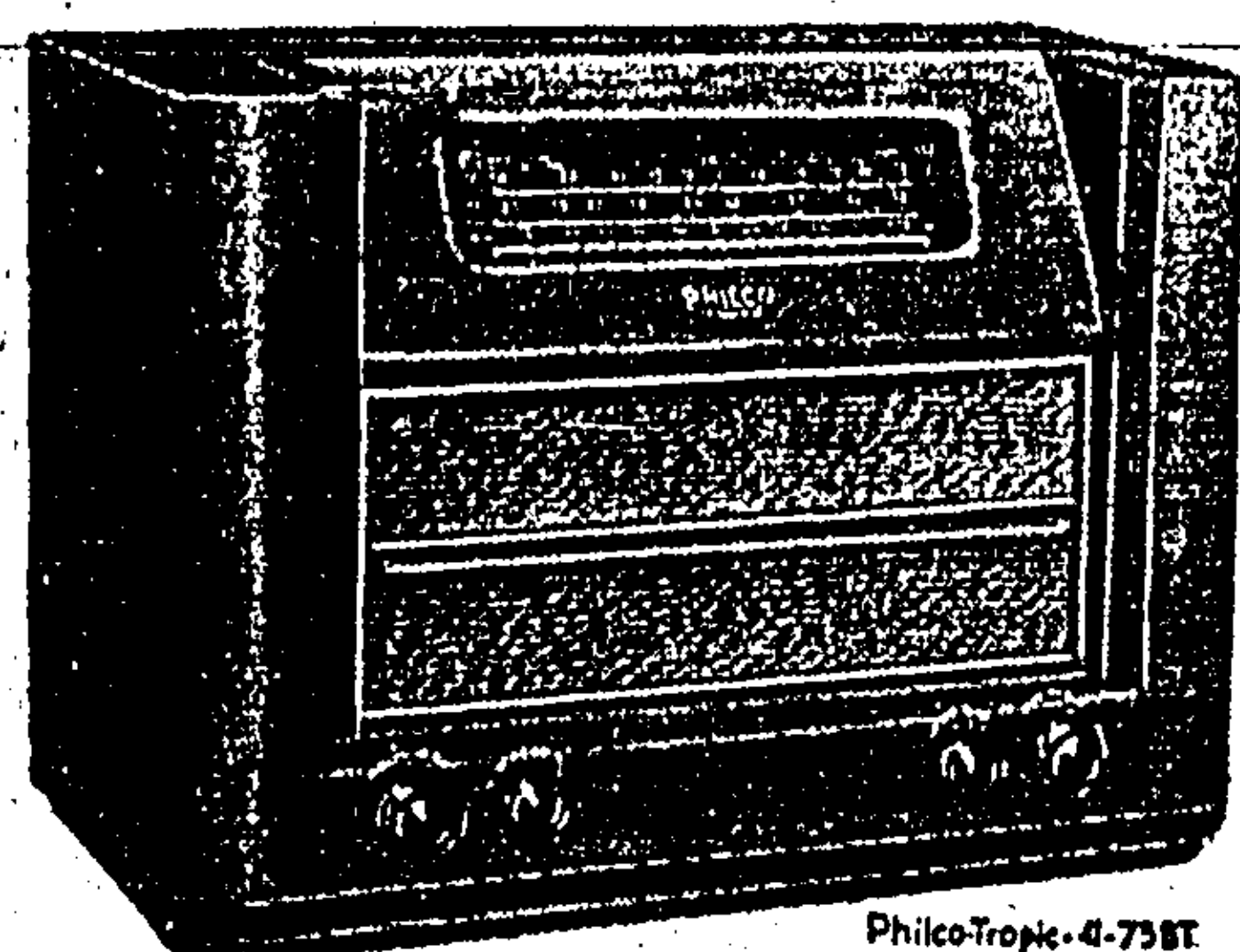
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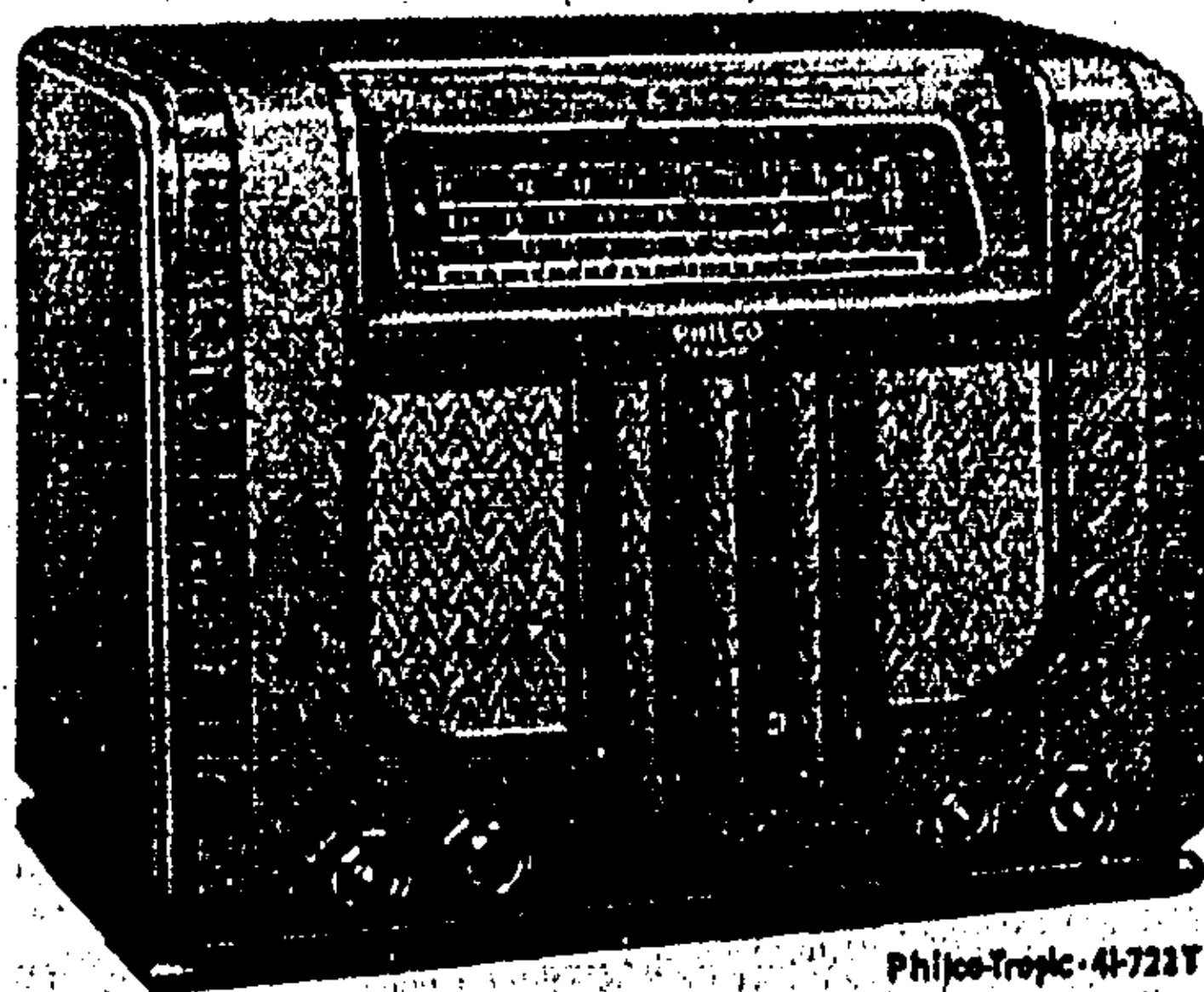
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NO SUM TOO LARGE. NO SUM TOO SMALL. Fill in the form below and HELP WIN THE WAR.

Donations to 18-12-40: \$1,498,414.14

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Hongkong, December 1940.

The Manager,

Bank,

Hongkong.

Sir,

Commencing 2nd, January, 1941, and until further notice, please transfer the sum of \$..... Monthly to "War Fund, South China Morning Post Ltd." and debit my current account.

Yours faithfully,

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NOTICE

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The following rates will be charged for mailing single copies of the following newspapers abroad:—

South China Morning Post
China and Macao
16 cents per copy

British Empire and Foreign
25 cents per copy

The Hongkong Telegraph
China and Macao
14 cents per copy

16 cents Saturdays

British and Foreign
20 cents per copy

25 cents Saturdays.

H.K. Stock Market

The following quotations were issued this morning.

BANKS

H.K. Banks \$.....1,365 b. & sa.

H.K. Banks (H.K.) \$.....70 n.

Chartered \$.....84 n.

Mercantile, A. & B. \$.....20 1/2 n.

Mercantile, C. \$.....10 1/2 n.

East Asia \$.....74 b.

Canton \$.....100 b.

Union \$.....30 1/2 n.

H.K. Underwriters \$.....1 n.

H.K. Fire \$.....150 n.

SHIPPING

Douglas \$.....135 n.

Steamships \$.....11 n.

Indo-China P. \$.....100 n.

Indo-China D. \$.....80 n.

Shell (Benares) \$.....38/9 n.

Waterboats \$.....7 n.

DOCKS ETC.

Wharves \$.....02 b.

Docks (old) \$.....17/00 n.

Providents \$.....5,00/63 sa.

Shal Dockyards \$.....30 n.

MINING

Kailan \$.....16/3 n.

Raubas \$.....09/4 n.

H.K. Mines \$.....14 cts. n.

LANDS

Hotels \$.....3 1/2 b.

Lands 4 1/2 Debentures \$.....100 n.

Shal Lands \$.....11 1/2 n.

Humphreys \$.....7,80 n.

H.K. Realities \$.....3,95 n.

Chinese Estates \$.....100 n.

UTILITIES

Trams \$.....17,70 sa.

Peak Tams (old) \$.....7,40 n.

Peak Tams (new) \$.....3 1/2 n.

Star Ferries \$.....61 b.

Y. Ferries \$.....24 1/2 n.

China Lights (old) \$.....7 1/2 n.

China Lights (new) \$.....7,05 b.

H.K. Electric (old) \$.....40 1/2 n.

H.K. Electric (new) \$.....30 1/2 n.

Macao Electric (old) \$.....17 1/2 n.

Macao Electric (new) \$.....16 1/2 n.

Sandakan Light \$.....11,30 b.

Telephones (old) \$.....25 1/2 n.

Telephones (new) \$.....10,30 b.

INDUSTRIALS

Caid: Macg. (Ord.), Sh. \$.....14,00 n.

Caid: Macg. (Pref.), Sh. \$.....12 n.

Canton Ice \$.....1 n.

Cements \$.....18,20 b.

H.K. Repes \$.....7 b.

STORES, &c.

Dairy Farms \$.....10 1/2 n.

Watsons \$.....10,60 sa.

Lane Crawfords \$.....9 n.

Sinceres \$.....2,15 n.

Wing On (H.K.) \$.....30 n.

Powell Ltd. \$.....1,50 n.

COTTON MILLS

Ewo Sh. \$.....37 n.

Shal Cotton Sh. \$.....105 n.

MISC.

H.K. Govt. 4 1/2 \$.....08 n.

H.K. Govt. 3 1/2 (1934) \$.....04 n.

H.K. Govt. 3 1/2 (1940) \$.....04 n.

Ch. Govt. 5% 1925 G.S.Bds. \$.....35 n.

H.K. Entertainments \$.....7 b.

Constructions (old) \$.....1,00 b.

Constructions (new) \$.....1 n.

Vibro Piling \$.....7,70 n.

Marsmans Inv. (Lon.) \$.....7/8 n.

Marsmans Inv. (H.K.) \$.....2/10 n.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Hongkong Stock Exchange Official Summary, issued yesterday says: The market is quiet with a firm undertone. The following dividends on Philippine Gold shares are reported.

Msbates .01 ctvos.

I. X. L. .02 ctvos.

Buyers

H.K. Banks \$1,303

Canton Ins. \$100

Union Ins. \$395

Hopes \$7

Docks "O" \$18.10

Docks "N" \$17.40

Providents \$5.00

Hotels \$3.50

Realities \$3.75

Lights "O" C.D. \$7.40

Lights "N" C.D. \$7.05

Sandakan Lights \$11.20

Hopes \$7

Dairy Farms \$10.15

Watsons \$10.40

Entertainments \$7

Constructions "O" \$1.00

Realities \$3.95

Electricity "O" \$40.50

Vibro Piling \$7.70

Sales

H.K. Banks \$1,303

Providents \$5.00

Trams \$17.70

Telephones "O" \$25.75

Watsons \$10.60

ITALIANS RETREATING

FROM PAGE ONE

Instead of waiting to mop up each point of resistance, our armoured forces crashed right through in great encircling movements on the theory that a demoralised and surprised enemy force, knowing itself cut off and subjected to continual bombings, could safely be left to surrender.

Enemy Methods

Interesting discoveries were made regarding Italian Army methods. The Italians seem to be very short of metals but show considerable talent for rapid road-making, organising hospitals and foodstuffs. Huge water supplies are efficiently stored at Busbuck.

Their Intelligence Service is good

and their organisation is carefully thought out. It was only when they came to close quarters with the British troops that they broke, and once the spirit of surrender began among them it spread like a fire.

As one British officer expressed it:

"The Italian Army would make an excellent supply column for another army doing the actual fighting."

Our Superior Tanks

Moreover, Italian tanks lost all battles with British tanks partly owing to the dashing spirit of our tank commanders and crews and partly owing to the fact, in some cases, of superior armament.

Many Italian tanks have "Achilles heel"

in their rear, where the armament is weakest, and this was quickly discovered by our tanks which repeatedly outflanked the Italians and shot them up from the back.

But in the last analysis, the reason for the British victory undoubtedly was the simple fact that British and Empire troops knew what they were fighting for while the Italians did not.

Long Line of Retreat

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The information that Italian formations are retreating towards Derna is interesting inasmuch as Derna is about 100 miles west of Tobruk, which itself is 60 miles west of Bardia.

It seems, therefore, that the Italians are retreating about 100 miles from Bardia, which is now the scene of the main fighting on land.

The object of the present operation seems to be to isolate Bardia and then to mop it up in the way that was so successful in the cases of Sidi Barrani and Sollum. This would very neatly round off the operations which began at Sidi Barrani.

Indians Part

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—A New Delhi message says that the Indian troops taking part in the operations in the Western Desert include men from all parts of the country. They were among the first to attack and they captured three Italian camps besides taking part in other operations.

The spirit and gallantry of the Indian soldiers has been remarked by many observers. Under dive-bombing, they remain cool and determined.

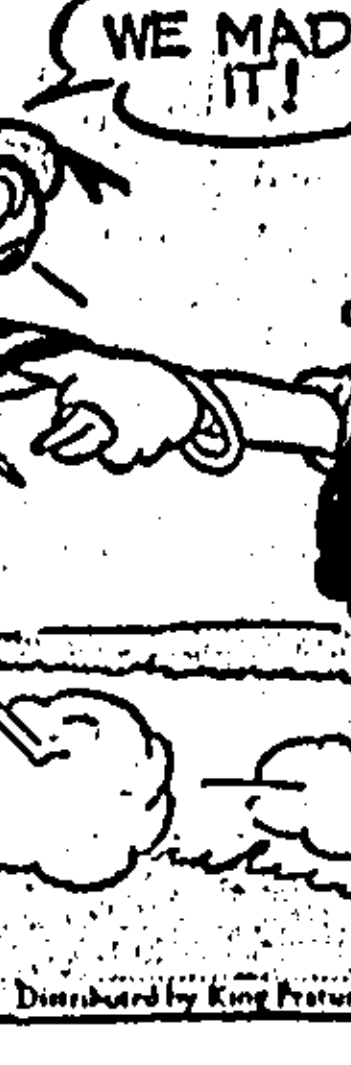
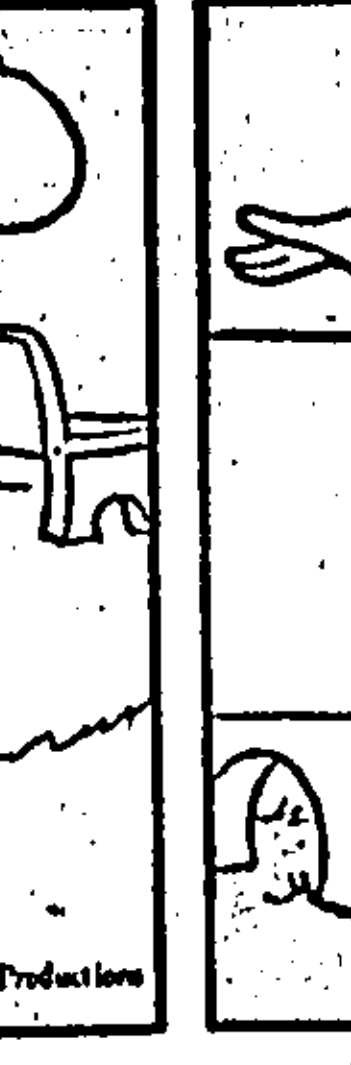
Indo-China-Thai War "Childlike"

FROM PAGE ONE

It is not known what is wanted in exchange for the hostages.

Thai Retaliates

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BERLIN IS FULL OF ARMS WORKS TARGETS FOR THE R.A.F.

By A Special Correspondent
NO capital city in Europe is so highly industrialised or contains so many military targets in the heart of the city itself as Berlin.

Its magnificent airport, Tempelhof, unlike any of the other big aerodromes of Europe, is only a short distance from the centre of the city.

For air travelling business people, and tourists from all countries, it was a very much appreciated advantage to be connected by car or coach within a few minutes with the principal hotels.

But in war-time this is naturally a danger for tens of thousands of inhabitants of the crowded districts, Kreuzberg, Tempelhof, Mariendorf, and Neukölln in the immediate neighbourhood.

Big Centre

For Tempelhof is now, of course, a military aerodrome of vital importance.

Apart from this, Berlin has always been, and still is, the biggest arms production centre in Germany, comparable only with the Ruhr district.

Berlin was, and still is, the stronghold of German metallurgical production in which already in peacetime at least 300,000 workers were engaged. Many more it is certain, are working there now.

The Allgemeine Elektrizitäts-Gesellschaft, world-wide known as A.E.G., for example, has plants scattered all over Greater Berlin.

The accumulators factory in Couranteneck, in the east, is surrounded by a middle class residential quarter. In the middle of dense populated inner-town districts are other plants, such as those in the Brunnenstrasse N.E. and in the Mohrstrasse N.W.

The huge Siemens works form a special town Siemensstadt, between Charlottenburg and Spandau which include thousands of workers' and engineers' dwellings.

Old Arsenal Town

Spandau, which also belongs to Greater Berlin, is the old State arsenal town of the Reich and contains every kind of armament for every possible manufacturing of other arms. It is moreover closely linked with the second big military air base of the capital, Blaken.

Most of the biggest arms factories are, it is true, in outer districts, but many are surrounded by residential areas — the Knorr-Bremse, in Lichtenberg, and Bergmann electrical works in Rosenthal, N. The Loewe Company (also called Berlin-Kirchhof-Pfeifen-Werke), in Wittenau, N., and near it the famous old locomotive factory Borsig in Tegel.

In the southern part of the city the number of important factories closely connected with the German war effort is even bigger — the Deutsche Telefon works, in Schoeneberg, S.W., the Lorenz Company, the Daimler works in Marienfelde, and a host of big factories in Tempelhof, in the southern and eastern border of the Tempelhof.

Admits Nazis Might Seize Belgian Food

By W. N. EWER.

THE ... in Belgium, if their transport breaks down because of war conditions, will "live on the country."

So German authorities have told Mr. John Cudahy, former United States Minister in Brussels.

Mr. Cudahy, who is now in London and talked to Press representatives, is apparently anxious to persuade Americans to send food to Belgium for the relief of the Belgian population.

He "believes" that the German Army would "promise" not to requisition food sent for that purpose.

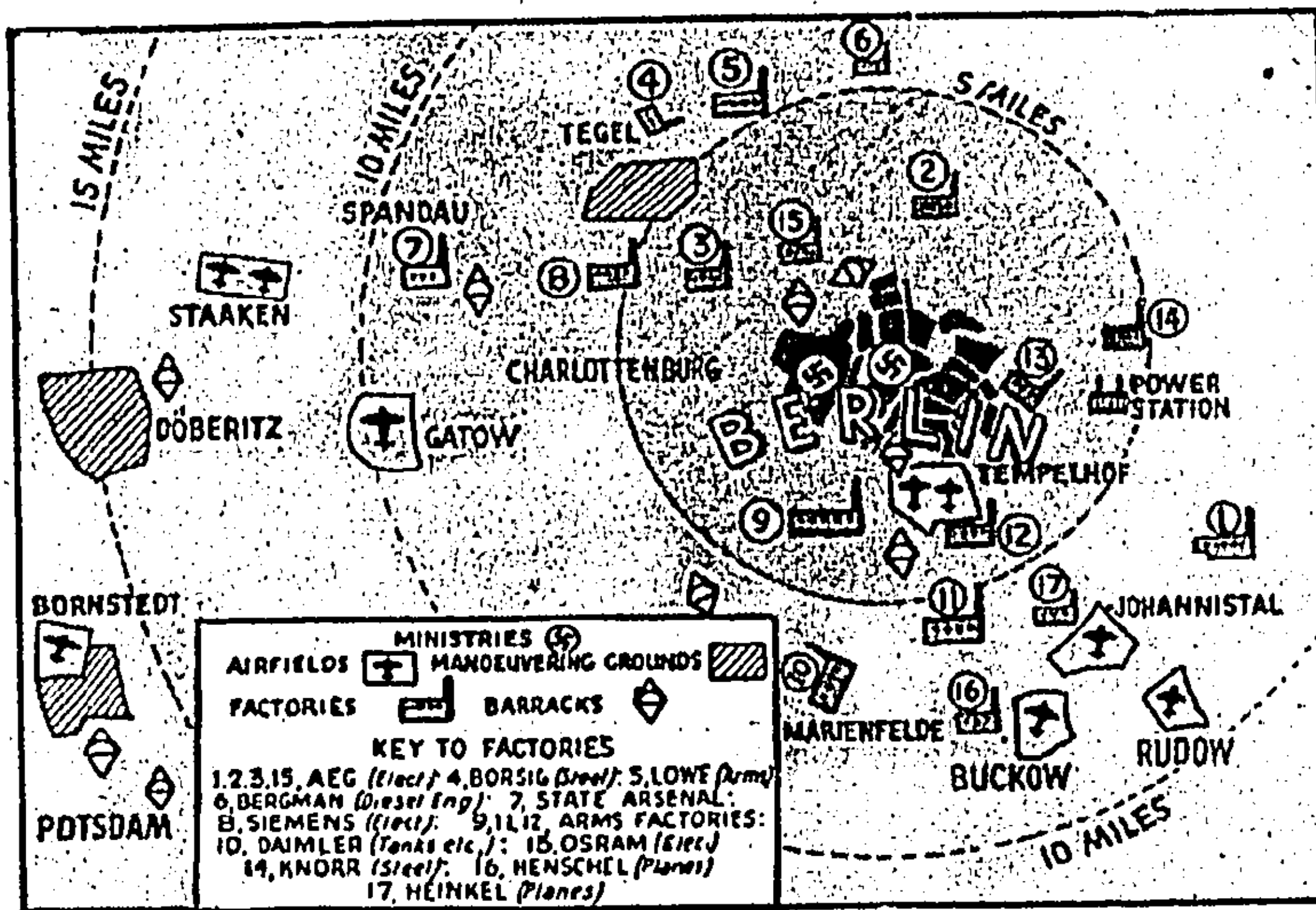
But even he admits that in the event of transport trouble (real or staged) the Germans would take all they could and let the Belgians starve.

It is significant that even now, according to Mr. Cudahy, the Belgians are only being allowed 220 grammes of bread a day to one person — say two slices.

It is, though no omitted to say so, only two-thirds of what the German people get.

The fact is that Belgium, like the other occupied countries, is being deliberately starved in order to provide food for the Nazis.

For the rest, Mr. Cudahy's interview, consisted of warm tributes to the German Army and King Leopold.



NURSES HIT BACK AT RANEE'S 'SLUR'

Nurses are indignant at the slur cast on their profession in reported statements by the Ranee of Sarawak, wife of Sir Charles Brooke, white Rajah of Sarawak, regarding the evacuation of children to Canada.

"If things are not changed, you Canadians will be getting the young riff-raff of England — and you'll be sorry, let me tell you," she declared, according to the "Toronto Globe."

"Women of England are faking names of relatives in Canada just so they can get rid of their children," she is further reported to have said.

Lady Brooke also spoke of English "society" women who offered to pay the passages of children going to Canada.

"They placed them in charge of nurses," she went on, according to the paper.

"The only object of many of the nurses is to get a man aboard ship and they don't care what happens."

"Nice youngsters and rotten youngsters are mixed up together. It's shameful."

Strong public criticism of these remarks has been made in Toronto. In England, Miss Beatrice Maud Drapper, national organiser for the Guild of Nurses, said:

"I think it's a very grave reflection on the nursing profession."

Put Job First

"I'm sure nurses who volunteer for this type of service do so out of devotion to their job because they

Child Flung In Air, Dies

A man who flung a three-year-old boy into the air while at play and failed to catch him gave evidence at the inquest at Birmingham on the boy, Donald William White, of Whitehead-road, Aston, Birmingham.

The mother, Mrs. Doris White, said that she and her sister went to a public-house at night and took the child with them. She heard a bump, and turned round to see the boy on the ground.

Albert Edward Davis, of Victoria-road, Aston, said that he picked up the child and tossed him into the air. He missed, missed his balance, and failed to catch the boy, who fell on his head.

Coroner's Comment

Recording a verdict of accidental death, the Coroner, Dr. W. H. Davidson, commented: "Mothers should not take their children to a public-house at this hour."



THE RANEE OF SARAWAK

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty

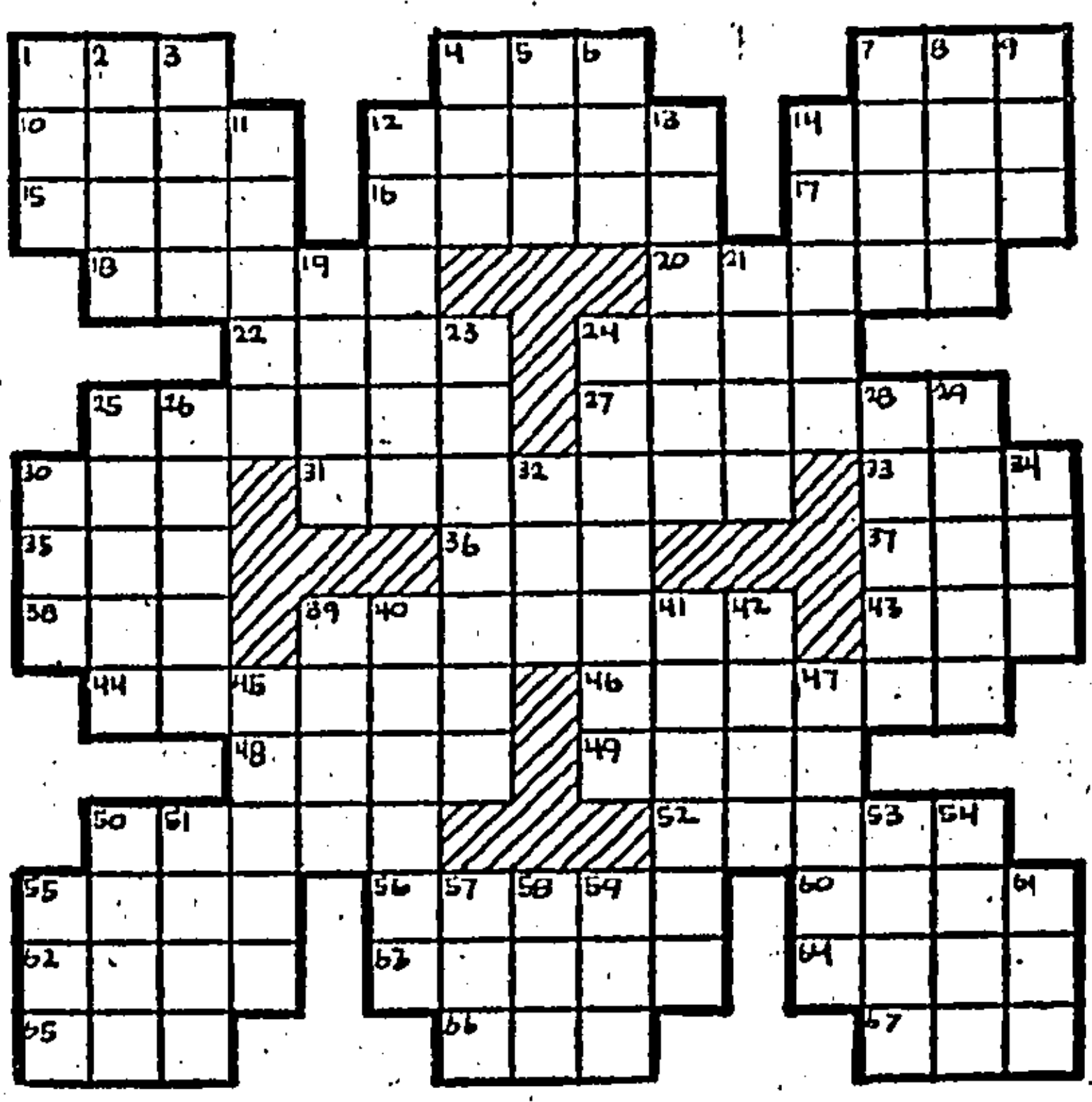


"And don't expect any other call! I cancelled the fleet's shore leave!"

Crossword Puzzle

By LANS MORRIS

- ACROSS
- 1—Man's name
 - 2—Country name
 - 3—Body of water
 - 4—Girl's name
 - 5—African antelope
 - 6—Debt certificate
 - 7—Metal pin
 - 8—Ancient gift to guests
 - 9—Crucifix
 - 10—Heavy veil
 - 11—Monitor
 - 12—Enclave
 - 13—Vegetable
 - 14—Amiable derision
 - 15—Small scale
 - 16—Large cup
 - 17—Learned
 - 18—Faint
 - 19—Speech
 - 20—Sold Army
 - 21—Zingy (slang)
 - 22—Gratuity
 - 23—Isotonic highly
 - 24—Presence of "be"
 - 25—Cervine device
 - 26—Branching
 - 27—Van-colored
 - 28—Run together
 - 29—Ditch
 - 30—Doe who held up the world
 - 31—On a grand scale
 - 32—Ditch cloth
 - 33—Look amorous
 - 34—Pour out viscously
 - 35—Pooch
- DOWN
- 1—Electric particle
 - 2—Eastern European
 - 3—Exchange premium
 - 4—Derraga
 - 5—Hurried
 - 6—Duck
 - 7—Fidelity
 - 8—Son of Seth
 - 9—Put in time
 - 10—Despicable city
 - 11—Buttress criminal
 - 12—Lobby
 - 13—Fruit
 - 14—At one time
 - 15—Climbing plant
 - 16—Climbing plant
 - 17—With mouth open
 - 18—Roof edge
 - 19—Directed
 - 20—Interacted
 - 21—Letter of alphabet
 - 22—Hect
 - 23—Blumbers
 - 24—Blumbers
 - 25—Vulgar language
 - 26—Whirl
 - 27—Whirl
 - 28—Whirl
 - 29—Whirl
 - 30—Whirl
 - 31—Whirl
 - 32—Whirl
 - 33—Whirl
 - 34—Whirl
 - 35—Whirl



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12.15 p.m. Short Service of Intercession.

12.30 Humorous Variety.

1 Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements.

1.03 Derek Oldham (Tenor) and the New Light Symphony Orchestra.

1.30 Reuter and Rugby Press, Weather Forecast and Announcements.

1.45 Tangos and Waltzes.

2.15 Close down.

6.30 Closing Local Stock Quotations.

6.32 Dance Music by Harry Roy and His Orchestra.

7 London Relay—The News.

7.15 London Relay—Questions of the Hour.

7.30 Variety Programme.

8 Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements.

8.03 Studio—Two Piano Jazz Recital.

8.23 Sea Shanties and Choruses.

8.45 Studio—Local Newscaster.

9 London Relay—The News and News Commentary.

9.30 An hour of Popular Classics.

10.30 Schubert—Rondo in A Major.

10.45 Liszt—Les Preludes—Symphonic Poem.

London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Albert Coates.

11 Close down.

FLATULENCE A QUICK, SURE REMEDY

Only those who are victims of flatulence know how painful this form of indigestion can be. The stomach becomes "blown out" pressing on other organs. Acute "itch" is felt in the side and under the heart. In severe cases, palpitation and breathlessness make the sufferer feel as if he were actually a heart patient.

At such times, how thankfully you turn to a soothing dose of Maclean Brand Stomach Powder. You take it in milk or water and almost immediately the "wind" disperses. Soon you are yourself again, able to laugh at the symptoms which felt like a serious illness.

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If you have any difficulty in obtaining it from your local chemist or store write to:—Banker & Co., E.O. Box 774, Hong Kong.

SAFPA

It's in the News

HOT SPOT

ADEN, Gibraltar of the East, is creeping into the news. We shall hear more of it as the Eastern war develops.

A hot place this. A rock that dominates the Indian Ocean entrance to the Red Sea. So hot that normally they never keep a person there for more than a year. The soldier, made of sterner stuff, for more than two.

And this is almost the hottest time of the year. The sun beats down by day on the extinct volcano that is Aden, and at night the Rock gives off its store of heat in blasts that are felt even out at sea.

The average shade temperature of the year is 87 degrees—a humid, Turkish-bath kind of heat. The sun temperature nobody has ever tried to investigate.

It's one of the driest spots on earth, too, as well as one of the thirdest. It rains on only a few days of the year, and then scarcely enough to lay the dust.

Not a pleasant place at all. At the best of times, the liner passenger rarely goes ashore there. If he does, it is to return with his lungs full of dust, and a throat nothing can quench.

★ ★ ★

Aden was "acquired" by Britain just over a century ago, after a row with a local chieftain.

It is, of course, comparable with Gibraltar as a naval base, but it pokes its nose into the sea in much the same way. And, rising nearly 2,000 feet high in places, it would be very difficult to capture either from land or sea.

A small, insignificant little promontory—only five miles by three. Not much bigger than that rocky Cornwell eminence known as King Arthur's Castle.

But you have only to look at the map to realize its strategic importance. It is one of the "pulse points" of the Empire's arterial highways—and Muscat, cutting through Somaliland across the water, is "wondering" now whether he cannot also at it.

H. O. P.

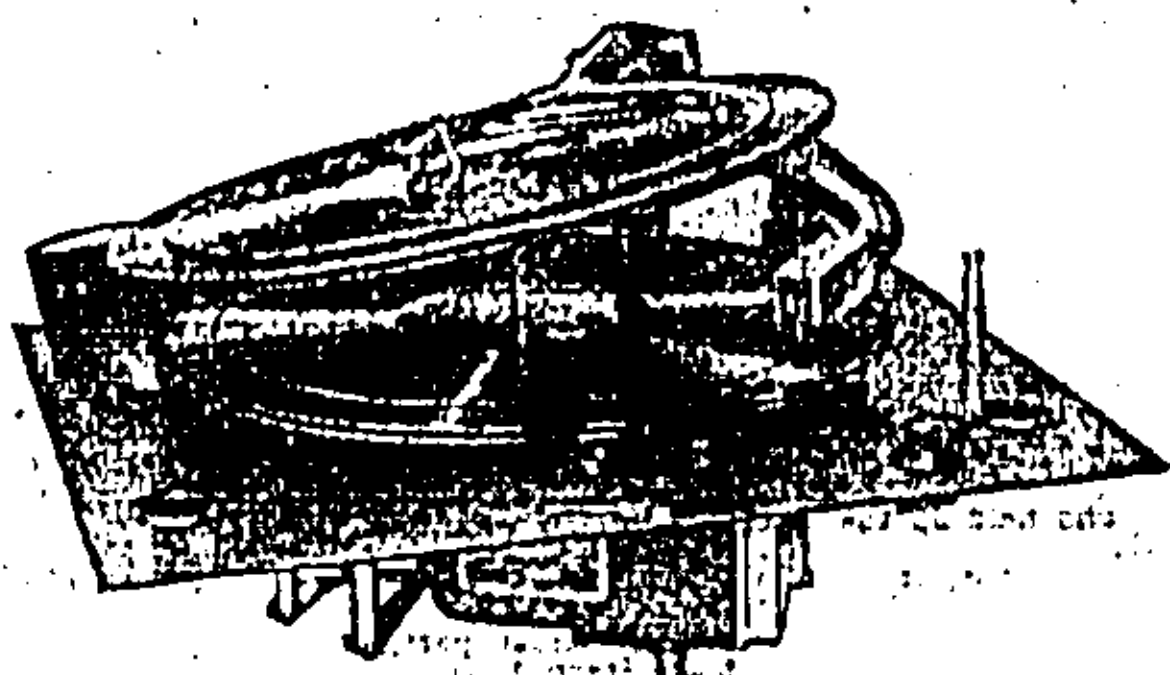
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The Hongkong Telegraph

Thursday, December 19, 1940.
Wyndham St., Hongkong
Telephone: 26615

THE prefix "Special to the Telegraph" is used by the "Hongkong Telegraph" to indicate news which is strictly copyright under the provisions of the Telecommunications Ordinance, 1934. Such news is borne by the indication "S.T." is received in Hongkong on the date of publication by the United Press Association, who reserve all rights and forbid republication, either wholly or in part without previous arrangement.

PREPAREDNESS

PREPAREDNESS for a new move by Hitler against Britain has again become the keynote of the speeches by the country's spokesmen. Lord Beaverbrook yesterday told in measured terms of the probable German plans for the future. Simultaneously it was announced that Britain had officially requested financial aid from the United States in order to carry on making purchases of essential war materials, while the Admiralty gave added emphasis to the current situation and the threats of the future by revealing the heavy losses which had recently been suffered at sea.

On the face of it there would appear to be good grounds for despondency, but such is not the case, and neither is it intended that the revelations made by British leaders during the past 48 hours should promote any such reaction. This is an honest, sensible appeal to face realities and to be prepared for anything. It is a necessary attitude, for only by complete preparedness can the Empire thwart the evil machinations of Hitler and his allies.

Britons have never been guilty of underestimating their opponents in a fight, though, perhaps, they have been in the past, too generous in the willing acceptance of specious promises and alleged goodwill. But this is war, and the whole Empire is ready to take the Nazis at their face value. The enemy still retains several advantages, but he has lost one of his greatest weapons—the element of surprise. Britain now has a thoroughly good working idea of what totalitarian warfare means, and daily she is discovering means to counter and defeat it.

Preparedness is the watchword, and this applies both to the supply of war weapons and in the mentality of the nation. Because of this, it is no sign of weakness that Britain now asks the United States for even greater aid than she has been giving on the contrary. Britain says to her cousin nation: "We are prepared; we are preparing; we are doing our utmost in a fight, the result of which means as much to you as it does to us; therefore, give us generously the aid, of which so much is in your power; we ask only assistance against a common enemy." Like Lord Beaverbrook's speech, this is not an appeal to sentiment, but to reason, and because the United States, whenever a crisis has arisen, has never failed to demonstrate her good sense, there is every hope that at this particular time she will support the British nation in her preparedness effort.

"The finest thing we did this year was the somewhat belated but strong-handed action at Oran. It raised our prestige as much as the Dakar episode and our general treatment of Vichy has lowered it. Oran was no half-measure. We want more action of a similar kind."

THIS is no time for half-measures. In diplomacy economic warfare and military operations, we have to go all out. The brilliant successes of our Air Force are due to bold tactics. In this war, whenever the Royal Navy has been given its head, our seamen have won success by similar methods.

Why, then, the apparent hesitancy and vacillation of our diplomacy?

We had a sharp lesson from Japan, which rewarded our temporary closing of the Burma Road by joining the camp of our mortal enemies.

Another example is our dealings with the Men of Vichy.

Too Tender

Are we persisting in tenderness towards these traitors? They have betrayed their own people as they have betrayed us.

In every direction they have acted against British interests, which are also the interests of France in the long run, in order to curry favour with their German and Italian masters.

They prevented many French soldiers, sailors and airmen from joining us to continue the struggle.

It is known that hundreds of their airmen would have flown their own machines over to Britain if they had been allowed.

Instead, French aeroplanes are used to bomb Gibraltar and kill British subjects as a so-called reprisal for the Dakar incident.

We seem to blow hot and cold towards Vichy. British subjects of military age in France are prevented from leaving, while we repatriate any Frenchman who wishes to return to Vichy-controlled France.

According to the official communiqué issued after the Dakar episode, we sent back the entire crew of a French submarine after the vessel had been caught red-handed

WHY THE VELVET GLOVE FOR VICHY?

by
Lord Strabolgi

and sunk while trying to torpedo our warships.

In Africa

We encourage and support General de Gaulle and his adherents, and we are helping those French Colonies which succeeded in throwing off the yoke of Vichy.

But when there is serious unrest in Algeria and Morocco, and the Vichy Government accuses the British Government of encouraging it, we issue an official denial that this is so.

If it is right for us to foment rebellion against the men of Vichy in French Equatorial Africa, why is it wrong for us to do the same thing in Algeria and Morocco?

Surely we should use every means at our disposal to encourage the inhabitants of the French overseas Empire to join General de Gaulle.

And Indo-China

Observe what has happened in Indo-China.

The Japanese are obtaining complete military control of that rich territory. From it they will be able to threaten both Burma and Thailand, and will have advance bases for possible operations against Singapore.

The local French citizens, Europeans and native, were eager to resist. The Vichy Government had to replace the Governor with one of its own creatures.

What has His Majesty's Government been doing to encourage resistance in Indo-China? The United States of America was willing to help.

Then Dakar. The failure to stop the French warships sailing to Dakar from Toulon, manned by bitter anti-British elements and adherents of the Vichy Government, was due, we are told, to a professional failure on the part of certain elements in the Services to inform the War Cabinet or the First Sea Lord of their departure.

We must accept this information, but it would be interesting to know which department was responsible.

Was it the Foreign Office, which is in superior control of all the Intelligence Services, or was the Secret Service itself at fault?

Or did the news reach

Gibraltar, but was not relayed from there?

Though no doubt the easiest place to intercept the ships was the Straits of Gibraltar, once contact had been made in the Atlantic, surely more vigorous action was called for.

The kindest explanation is that our Intelligence Service was hopelessly out in its reckoning, and not by any means for the first time.

If this is the case, and we had not the right information from West Africa, then the sooner there is a complete overhaul of all our various Secret and Intelligence Services the better.

In the last war, our Secret Service, as I had the best means of knowing on the Admiralty War Staff, was admirable. Two men of outstanding personality were in charge of their respective Intelligence Departments.

Admiral Sir Reginald Hall looked after Naval Intelligence, and General McDonagh the military side, and between them they were highly successful.

Have they no successors?

More Sinister

There is a more sinister explanation; and in the national interest it is desirable that the fullest possible information should be given to Parliament and the public, in open session, as soon as possible.

It is being stated in circles which have means of information that there is still a good deal of tenderness in high places towards the Petain Government.

The reason given is the old story of fear that if they fall they will be replaced by a Socialist, Communist or other Left Wing Government.

The same policy, in pre-war days, hampered our actions and diplomacy in dealing with Italy, especially at the time of Sanctions.

Certain powerful elements were frightened lest Mussolini and his confederates would be thrown out by the Italian people and replaced by a Left Government.

We all know how this same tenderness for "Christian Conservatives" influenced our dealings with Spain, and we may yet eat the bitter fruits of that blunder.

I feel sure the Prime Minister realises that this is no

longer a Nationalistic war. Since the French surrender he must know that we are fighting the Quislings, the Lavals, the ex-King Leopolds and their like in a number of countries.

These men of Vichy are as hostile to us as are the Nazis and Fascists.

They made their miserable surrender to Germany partly because they were afraid of a revolutionary Government in their own country.

They hate us for continuing the struggle, and also for looking like winners, because this destroys their main argument (for public consumption); namely, that further resistance was hopeless.

Away With Fear

Mr Churchill knows all this, and he also knows that one of our strongest weapons in the future will be to encourage insurrections in the enemy occupied territories themselves.

That being the case, why does he allow certain elements in his own Government to adopt this hot-and-cold attitude towards the Vichy Government?

We need not be afraid of the Vichy Government officially declaring war on us. If it tried to remobilise the French forces under German and Italian command there would be a revolution in France; which would be a good thing from our point of view.

If the Vichy Government committed this final madness, we would at least know where we were. We could tighten up our blockade and there need be no more Dakars.

No Half Measures

Other French warships have recently been allowed to leave the Mediterranean and pass the Straits of Gibraltar, and at the time of writing I have no news of their intentions or whereabouts.

The finest thing we did this year was the somewhat belated but strong-handed action at Oran. It raised our prestige as much as the Dakar episode and our general treatment of Vichy has lowered it. We want more action of a similar kind.

OFFICER WHO SAVED B. E. F.

HOW a British officer "probably saved the B.E.F." was told recently.

He is Major William Robert Reeves, D.S.O., of the Tank Regiment, once well known as a runner at Cambridge.

This is the story of his exploit:—

He was in charge of a cruiser tank and three light tanks during the evacuation from France. He took his tanks straight down a road held by Germans.

The light was falling, and the Germans, thinking they were German tanks, let them go through.

Further down the road the British officer found three anti-tank mines. He fired at them. One exploded; but the others did not.

Fought All Day

His sergeant removed them by hand and they went on to Gravelines. Arriving there in the early morning, the officer turned his tank round, stayed there, and fought all the next day.

With his own tank he destroyed seven German armoured vehicles and held the bridge at Gravelines. That probably saved the B.E.F., because if the bridge had gone the situation would certainly have been critical indeed at that time. The British officer and two of his men were wounded.

Spain's Position May Prove Decisive

By
Otto Janssen
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Some quarters have speculated that the Axis might reach some sort of agreement with Madrid whereby Axis troops would be granted passage across Spain without bringing that country formally into war against Britain. However, there appears to be no indication at present that such an agreement has been reached or is actively being discussed.

BRITAIN'S LIFELINE

The loss of Gibraltar would be a serious, although not necessarily fatal blow, to Britain. With the Axis in control of the western entrance to the Mediterranean, Britain's lifeline would be cut and Italian warships would be free to move into the Atlantic to join with Germany in attacks of British shipping.

Spain, recently acquired complete control of the "international zone" across the Straits of Gibraltar in Tangiers. This action created widespread interest in government and unofficial quarters here.

Spain's entry into the war, or more active collaboration with the Axis powers, might also endanger Britain's alternative route to her colonies and the East—that is, the route around Africa. Spain possesses territories along a good part of this route which would be valuable as bases for air and naval

operations against British shipping, and perhaps for land operations against Allied possessions in Africa.

ATLANTIC BASES

Probably the most important of these Spanish possessions, from a strategic standpoint, is the Canary Islands, lying in the North Atlantic off French Morocco. These islands are regarded ideal as bases for aircraft and submarines.

On the African mainland, across from the Canary Islands, lies the Spanish Gold Coast and the tiny colony of Iml. Farther down the African coast, below the "bulge", are several small Spanish islands, and several possessions on the main land, including Spanish Guinea. It may be significant that General Charles De Gaulle's "Free French" forces recently attacked and conquered the Vichy-controlled garrison in nearby Gabon territory.

ATTITUDE OF U. S.

The United States maintains cordial relations with General Franco's government in Madrid, and has indicated a desire to create greater friendship between the two countries. Shortly after the Spanish war ended, for example, the United States made a substantial loan to Spain for the purchase of cotton to rehabilitate that country's war-devastated textile industries.

However, any real cordiality in United States-Spain relations would, apparently, be determined by Spain's attitude toward Great Britain, since the United States now is pursuing a policy of maximum aid short of war to the latter country in its war efforts against the Axis.

Tournament Matches

A.N. Other XI Trounce Khalsa Deservedly A.A. Gunners Beat Police "B"

A.N. Other XI 6 5th A.A. "B" 1 KHALSA 3 POLICE "B" 1

A.N. OTHERS accomplished one of their best performances in the league when on the Club ground last Sunday they beat the Gunners 6-1.

During the early part of the game, Others worked out several good openings, but they delayed their shooting and frequently attempted to go one step too far.

However, after 15 minutes' play, Hitchcock found the net with a good shot. This lead was not held for long, for Bigginton soon equalised when he cut through from the right flank and beat Benwell from a difficult angle.

There was no further score when the interval was signalled.

GOAL-SCORING SPREE
AFTER the breather, Others went on a goal-scoring spree when Asley and Morgan added further goals, and Hitchcock completed his "hat-trick."

Although well-beaten, the Gunners never lost hope, and had they been steadier when within the circle they might have done better.

E. Woods did good work at right back, and it was rather unfortunate that he got hurt during the game; he had to leave the field on the two occasions. Speed and Barnecrough were the best of the halves, and Bigginton and Kennedy were speedy attackers.

WELL-SUPPORTED
WELL-BACKED by their defence, there was always danger when Others launched an attack. Gilchrist, on the right wing, sent in some nice centres and received good support from Asley at right inner.

Hitchcock was a thrustful leader and his four goals were a splendid bag for one day.
Apart from the first 20 minutes, the defence was never in danger of being overworked. Benwell had an idle second half in goal with Gunner, Youlton and McEldan forming a strong triangle in defence.

Going to the non-appearance of one of the umpire's players was eventually persuaded to officiate.

The All-Indian Police "B" team were at home to Khalsa at Boundary Street last Sunday and were defeated 3-1. The home team were out to "down" their rivals but in the end greater experience told against them and Khalsa earned their success.

From the initial bully, the visitors took up the offensive, and after heavy pressure Gurbachan Singh found the net from a pass which came from the right.

Only a few minutes later, Awlwar Singh increased the lead to 2-0. The Police defence stood up well to the bombardment and Balwant Singh saved well on two occasions, preventing further goals being scored.

DETERMINATION
THE second half was marked by increased determination by the home team, aided by an easing up on the part of Khalsa. The latter, though still the superior side, were unable to increase their lead, and only on rare occasions did the Police look like reducing it.

However, during a breakaway which followed, Narwant Singh took possession and by some fine dribbling beat Souza with a nice cross drive to reduce the deficit. The visitors had a bad 10 minutes, but recovered to beat off the attacks in a most business-like fashion.

M. H. Hassan, at centre-half, and Mohinder Singh, at left half, gave grand displays.
The Khalsa forwards, with their short passing, were still persistent, and Kariminder Singh, in the closing stages, scored the third and final goal.

Awlwar Singh led the attack well and Jantoor Singh, on the left wing, played true to form.
Narwant Singh, at inside left for the Police, was always forceful and showed much enterprise, but he hung on to the ball just too long. He met his match in Kishen Singh.

Going to the non-appearance of one of the umpire's players was eventually persuaded to officiate.



PLEA FOR PEACE—Pope Pius XII, broadcasting from Vatican City, makes special appeal to Catholics of U.S., urging "peace between the peoples and nations of the world, based on the equitable adjustment of differences." Pontiff spoke in English on Mission Sunday eve.

Tientsin Municipality Search For Revenue

TIENTSIN, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Embarking on the new year with overdrafts totalling large sums and faced with increased staff salaries and higher costs of coal and all imported materials, the British Municipal Council is casting about for ways and means to boost the revenue.

To-day, at an extraordinary meeting of the Council, the Chairman of the Council, Mr. James Turner, tabled five resolutions designed to yield \$917,000:

- (1) Increases in existing land taxes;
- (2) Introduction of an entertainment tax;
- (3) Police tax of 3 per cent. assessed in the rental value of all occupied premises;
- (4) Revision of the method of collecting land and rental assessment taxes;
- (5) Collection of all accounts in local dollars at the highest value when payment is tendered.

All five resolutions were passed.

League Badminton

Three Games Played In "B" Division

THREE MATCHES were played in the "B" Division of the local badminton League last night. St. John's and King's College scored decisive victories over the Police and Jewish R.C. respectively, while in the third, the Kowloon C.C. beat Kowloon Tong 6-3.

F. H. Kwok and J. Chen were the most successful pair for Kowloon Tong, winning two of their three games. The other was won by Peter Lo and J. Tsang.

ST. JOHN'S v. POLICE
St. John's beat Police 8-1.
D. Kwok and H. Eardley beat Major and Sit 21-2, beat Gillies and Bore 21-7, beat MacDonald and Dingdale 21-3.
H. Maynard and G. Ladd beat Major and Sit 21-3, lost to Gillies and Bore 21-13.
W. N. F. King and D. Dingdale 21-13.
L. Smith and P. Wilson beat Major and Sit 21-2, beat Gillies and Bore 21-7, beat MacDonald and Dingdale 21-7.

K.C.C. v. KOWLOON TONG
Kowloon Cricket Club beat Kowloon Tong 6-3.
F. H. Kwok and J. Chen 21-2, beat T. and S. C. Chan 21-9, beat Peter Lo and Sit 21-2, beat Gillies and Bore 21-7, beat MacDonald and Dingdale 21-3.
D. H. H. and Z. P. Guest lost to Kwok and Chen 11-21, beat Chans 21-3, lost to Lo and Tsang 18-21.
W. N. F. King and D. Dingdale 21-13.

KING'S COLLEGE beat Jewish Recreation Club 8-1.
S. Ramley and L. Landau lost to S. E. Chau and K. J. Atwell 12-21, lost to K. L. and W. C. Chung 12-21, lost to T. and S. C. Chan 21-9, lost to Sit 21-7, lost to Lo and Lam 10-21.
A. Pollak and M. Talan lost to Chau and Atwell 5-21, beat Lui and Chung 21-17, lost to Lo and Lam 10-21.
B. Godkin and J. Odell lost to Chau and Atwell 12-21, lost to Lui and Chung 12-21, lost to Lo and Lam 10-21.

Y.M.C.A. FIXTURES

The following European Y.M.C.A. fixtures have been arranged:
To-day, Squash, 6 to 11 p.m.; Swimming (water heated).
Friday, Badminton; Mixed Swimming 3 and 4 p.m.
Saturday, Hockey (3 and 4.30 p.m.); Swimming (water heated); Tennis.

Sunday, 9 p.m. Discussion Group (Kinas Carols); Tennis; Swimming (water heated).
Monday, Women's War Work, West Lounge, 9 a.m. to 12 noon; Swimming (heated water) and Swimming Instruction.

Tuesday, Badminton, 6 to 11 p.m.; Mixed Swimming 6 to 8 p.m. (water heated); Billiards Match Night, 7.30 to 11 p.m.
Wednesday, Women's War Work, West Lounge, 9 a.m. to 12 noon; Swimming (water heated) and Swimming Instruction; Chess Night, 8 to 11 p.m.

Canadian Minister's Escape

Thrilling Story Of Torpedoing

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The Hon. Mr. C. D. Howe, Canadian Minister of Munitions, whose fate was for some time in doubt after the sinking by a Nazi submarine in the Atlantic of the liner Western Prince on which he was a passenger, has landed at a west coast port with 52 other passengers and 99 members of the crew of the liner.

Other survivors of the Canadian Government Mission include Mr. E. P. Taylor (Director-General of Munitions Production) and Colonel W. C. Woodburn (Executive Assistant to the Ministry).

The Hon. Mr. Gordon W. Scott, Financial Adviser to Mr. Howe's department, lost his life.

The Captain of the Western Prince is also lost.

Mr. Howe, in an interview, said: "We heard the Captain give three hoots on the siren in token of farewell."

The Captain's steward, named Franks, lost his life when he went back to the liner to collect Spitfire Fund money amounting to about £100 collected by the crew.

Crushed Against Ship
Mr. Howe said that Mr. Scott was in the sixth boat when he was crushed against the ship's side and temporarily relaxed his grip of the rope, after which he disappeared in the darkness.

Howe described his death as a great loss to Canada. He said that they had stayed up until midnight to see "Friday the 13th" safely out, and he was in bed when the ship was hit.

Before the ship sank, the U-boat took flashlight photographs of the liner.

Tribute To Seamen

Mr. Howe added that it was due to the magnificent seamanship of Captain Reid in getting the boats away in the dangerous seas and to the skill of the captain of the rescuing ship, that the casualty list was so light.

The crews of both ships behaved bravely and the passengers' behaviour was grand. There was not a trace of panic.

Explaining why his party was perhaps more comfortably dressed than the other rescued passengers, Mr. Howe said that their womenfolk made them take a small case containing lumbermen's trousers, jersey, overshoes and a small case containing the only things they had time to grab when roused from sleep.

Captain's Farewell
LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—How Captain Reid, commanding the Western Prince, went down with his ship, although he could easily have saved his life after the liner was torpedoed, was told by the Chief Engineer.

The Chief Engineer said that when he got the signal "Abandon Ship," he found Captain Reid by a life-boat. Urged to get in, the Captain walked away to the bridge and sounded the siren as the ship went down.

Mr. C. D. Howe, the Canadian Minister of Munitions, said that five life-boats got away safely but the sixth overturned, and it was then that the casualties occurred.

Newly-Weds
The survivors include the Mother Superior of a convent in China and a young novice. The Mother Superior said that both had also survived terrific machine-gunning on the Yangtze.

Three babies, who were hoisted to the deck of the rescue ship, were also among the rescued.
The missing include a honeymoon couple who had returned to their cabin to collect their presents.

Message To Premier
OTTAWA, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The Prime Minister's office has received a message from Mr. C. D. Howe saying "Life-boat overturned while attempting to transfer occupants to the rescue ship in heavy sea."

News of the death of Mr. Gordon Scott and others has shocked Government officials here.

HEAVY RAID ON KUNMING

A JAPANESE NAVAL BASE IN INDO-CHINA, Dec. 19. (Domei).—With the return of favourable weather, Japanese Naval planes on Monday carried out another expedition to Kunming, the capital of Yunnan province, bombing scores of warehouses of war materials.

All the planes returned safely.

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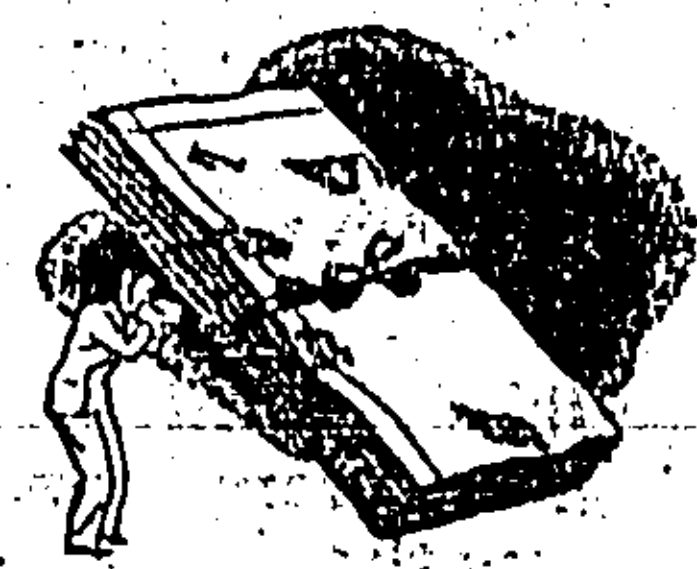
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HITLER PERSUASIONS TO WIN VICHY FLEET & ARMY

(By "Reuter's" Chief Diplomatic Correspondent)

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The crisis at Vichy does not appear to be over. Under German pressure, Laval has been allowed his liberty but he has not been reinstated in office.

The interview between Marshal Petain and Herr Otto Abetz, the Nazi Ambassador, must have been dramatic. Abetz probably endeavoured to convince the Marshal that Laval had been maligned and that he had never conspired with Abetz against Petain's security or the interests of the state.

Reports that Laval favoured permitting the passage of troops to Italy are not confirmed from any indisputable source. If the Germans wished to send troops hurriedly to Italy they would use the Brenner pass.

Conciliation Policy
A decision to break through Unoccupied France is improbable as it would be in opposition to the German policy of the past few weeks, the object of which has been to secure the full collaboration of France in place of Italy.

Hitler knows that his troops could enter Unoccupied France at any moment, but it is far more important for him to have the French Navy and the French Colonial Empire on his side.
Hence the conciliatory methods employed in dealing with Marshal Petain and the use of self-seeking politicians such as Laval and Flaminio.

So far, however, Marshal Petain has resisted all German blandishments.

Nazi Missionaries In S. Africa

5th Column Activities
PRETORIA, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Measures against fifth column activity in South Africa were announced by the Minister of Native Affairs to-day.

The Government has ordered the removal to other areas of 400 German missionaries who entered the South African native reserves after 1935 because some of the missionaries are carrying on subversive propaganda.

French Envoy To Nazi Paris

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Comte Fernand de Brinon to-day formally assumed the post of French Ambassador in Paris, according to a Vichy dispatch to the German news agency.

The appointment was made by Marshal Petain in accordance with a decision taken at yesterday's cabinet meeting.

Comte de Brinon thus becomes a full-fledged Ambassador six weeks after his appointment as the permanent representative of the French Foreign Minister (Henri Laval). He has long been known for his friendly attitude towards Germany.

As Vice-President of the French-German Committee, he was received by Goebbels in February, 1939. The visit was considerably criticised and he subsequently denied that he had been sent to Berlin on a mission for the French Government.

BERLINERS HAVE TO EVACUATE

Effect Of R.A.F. Raids

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"
LONDON, Dec. 18 (UP).—The Minister of Economic Warfare in a statement to-day said that 650,000 German children are among the mass of evacuees which the heavy R.A.F. bombings have forced to leave Berlin, Hamburg and towns in the Ruhr district going to south Germany, Austria and German Poland.

He declared that the Germans are crumbling before and louder regarding the increasing inconvenience resulting from the R.A.F. raids.

Table Tennis Matches For Charity

The Chinese Table Tennis Association are staging further matches in the Macao Interport series, the object being to raise funds for the National Women's Relief Association.

The matches will be held at the Chinese Y.M.C.A., Bridges Street, at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, December 20 and 21, the girls playing on the first day and the men the second.

The entrance fees are slated to be \$1 and 50 cents.

Kowloon C. C. Teams

The following will represent the K.C.C. in friendly cricket matches on Saturday.

First XI, v. H.K.C.C., away: N. D. Lloyd (capt.), E. F. Fincher, D. J. N. Anderson, D. Hung, W. L. Rapley, R. T. Broadbridge, A. Zimmern, F. R. Zimmern, F. J. Lay, B. D. Lay, and F. Goodwin. Umpire, J. P. Robinson; Scorer, T. W. Carr.

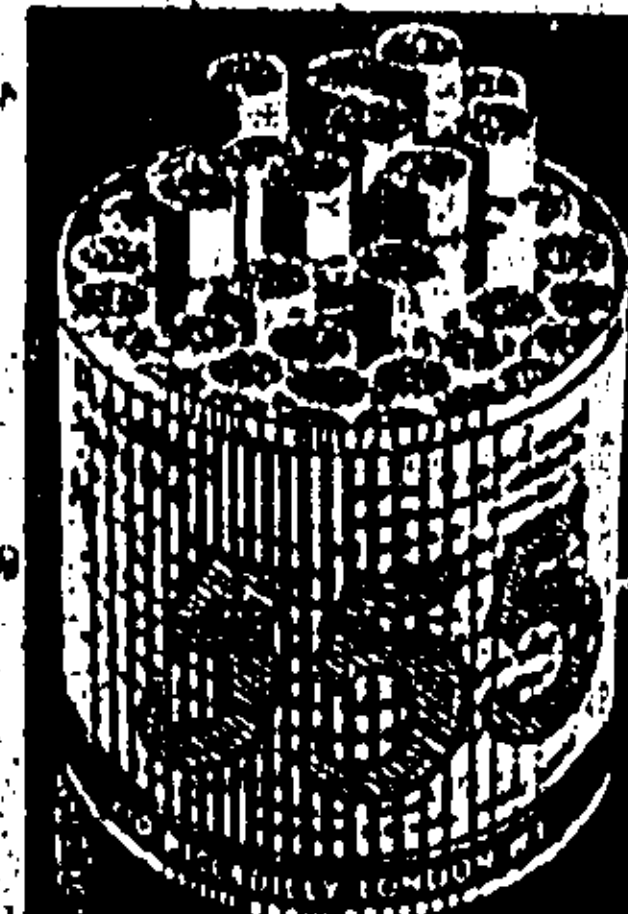
Second XI, v. Police, home: S. A. Gray (capt.), R. Birdwin, E. Curtis, L. R. Birch, K. M. Baxter, J. B. Luke, H. Brokenthire, R. Leigh, G. W. Giffen, J. W. Bertram and R. J. Fenton. Twelfth man, F. Crabbe.

SIX KILLED IN AIR CRASH

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

MARION FIELD, Calif., Dec. 18 (UP).—Six army flyers were killed here to-day when their "Flying Fortress" crashed into the side of a mountain, five miles north of Hollywood, on a training flight.

The dead are Pilot Harold J. Turner, a first Lieutenant; co-pilot Donald Smith, first Lieutenant; navigator Vernon McCauley, first Lieutenant; Staff Sergeant Thomas B. Sweet, engineer; Corporal Frank J. Jirak and Private James C. Sessions, radio operators.



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TEAM-WORK, MARKING & TACKLING

Phases Of Game That Should Be Learned

SOUNDNESS IN DEFENCE

SOUND TEAM WORK will defeat clever individualism every time. Even moderate players, if they know the secret of teamwork, may improve their personal play appreciably provided that they recollect that hockey is a game with a small ball which is so easily intercepted by an opposing half or full-back.

With this point in mind, if the ball is passed and re-passed rapidly and all the halves follow up closely, and if a forward has lost the ball in a tackle, and his own half is up in an attempt to retrieve it, it enables him to go through or to put another forward through instantly without any slackening of speed.

Proper sympathy and understanding as between backs, half-backs and forward promotes the real team work.

The science of marking is better understood in practice by modern players than by those of the older generation. Defences have vastly improved and are stronger and more effective in marking. It is one of the fundamental elements of the game to mark your opponent closely. The player has to watch where the ball is and what his opponent proposes to do. He must be in readiness to follow any attempt to get the pass to one of the other side.

Weak marking brings a stronger attack upon their own goal, for when a forward is soundly covered he can be easily put off his usual game. Wing halves should mark their respective wing forwards, the centre-half the centre-forward and the full-backs pay their main attention to the inside forwards.

If there is bad marking in the half line it throws greater responsibility and work on the full backs and the goalkeeper.

Tackling

It is a big playing asset to one's team to be a sound tackler. The main point is to know the right moment when to tackle and how to carry it out skillfully. A sound and efficient tackle means a good deal to your side.

To be a successful tackler you must focus your eye on the ball and utilise your wrists. Then again, anticipation is highly important. The player who has this gift at once becomes a deadly sure tackler, and to the full-backs and halves, it is a primary function.

To be a full-back, the lunge stroke is valuable. Hesitation in tackling by either of these sets of players, or the adoption of a retreating movement reveals unsoundness.

K.C.C. Bowls Team

Kowloon Cricket Club will meet United Services Recreation Club in a lawn bowls match on Saturday at U.S.R.C. at 2.30 p.m. when the following will represent them:

A. H. Martin, P. Wellwood, A. Wright, Fraser, Tibbille, D. Wylie, V. C. Labrum, W. W. Parsons, W. Smith, C. J. Tachell, G. E. Taylor, R. H. E. Martin, R. S. Capell.

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AT CLUB GROUND, KING'S PARK



A MOMENT of action during the Tournament League hockey match between the 5th A.A. "B" and A.N. Other XI at the Club ground last Sunday. A.N. Others won easily by 6-1.—Ming Yuen.

UNIVERSITY PLAY MACAO AT HOCKEY & BADMINTON

MACAO, Dec. 18.—True to tradition, Macao displayed much enthusiasm in the hockey matches which took place here yesterday and to-day and large crowds were present. The visitors consisted of the team of the Hongkong University.

In to-day's game, the University lost by three goals to nil against a team of the Macao Hockey Club consisting of 1st and 2nd Division players. Both teams were in fine form, and the game was brisk from start to finish.

Early on, Macao showed a definite superiority and had the better of the exchanges. The front line attack had lost none of its prowess and combined understandingly with the defence. The University had hard work to withstand the many thrusts of their opponents.

However, the Hongkong side seemed on the point of drawing blood when Tan broke through, but his fast shot went wide of Macao's custodian. Fred Nolasco made a brilliant individual effort in the lightning dash past the University defence, but tripped at the moment of scoring. Soon after, Rosario sent a fine angle shot toward Gupta, who anticipated accurately and cleared.

Some ten minutes before the interval, the home team secured the first goal following a short corner when Fred Nolasco directed the ball between the posts.

Further Goals

UPON RESUMPTION the energies of the University defence were taxed to the utmost as there seemed to be a continual storming of the University citadel. Working in fine combination on Macao's left flank, Rosario passed to Angelo who centred to Gustavo Silva and on his swift manoeuvre past Low, Silva sent a flying ball into the net.

But for Gupta's keen eye, more goals would have been scored by Macao. Alex Airosa all but scored when an extremely fast ball rebounded from the post. In his new position on the forward line during the second-half, Airosa acquitted himself splendidly, and following some clever stick work he slotted a terrific shot which found the net.

The University's defence merited the highest praise, Leow and Tam being inspiring throughout. Hans Raj, Chin and Ho persisted splendidly and were unlucky to meet with the unbreakable resistance of Ferreira and Trigo Silva.

University: N. H. Low, Khori Singh, Leow, Tam (Capt.), Tan, Chelliah, Hans Raj, T. Chin, H. Ho. Macao Club: Fred Nolasco, Ferreira, Alex Airosa, J. Nolasco, Trigo Silva, Rosario, Fred Nolasco, Albert Airosa, Gustavo Silva, Angelo, Rosario.

Victory Over Macao Lyceum

IN YESTERDAY'S encounter, the University defeated the Macao Lyceum by one clear goal. At the commencement the visitors seemed to be all too keen on individual play, but some good passing was observed as the game progressed.

The teams were very evenly matched and Macao was particularly strong with Almeida, Trigo Silva and Leitao, the half-back trio. Rocha and Arnaldo Silva were conspicuous on the forward line with Gustavo Silva and Rodrigues leading the attack.

Before the interval, a ding-dong battle featured the game, but resuming, Tam, Chelliah and Hans Raj pressed constantly against the home goal area, and before long, following a general melee, Hans Raj took a fine chance and registered for the University.

University: N. C. Gupta, N. H. Low, Khori Singh, Leow, Tam, H. Ho, Chelliah, Hans Raj, Amplanvar, Ho Singh. Macao Lyceum: R. Leao, J. Nolasco, J. Noronha, Almeida, Trigo Silva, Leitao, Rocha, Arnaldo Silva, Gustavo Silva, Rodrigues, Rosario—Our Own Correspondent.

DECISIVE BADMINTON WIN FOR UNIVERSITY

MACAO, Dec. 18.—Macao welcomed the opportunity of meeting the Hongkong University in a badminton contest this evening, and despite the fact that it was a one-sided encounter throughout owing to the vast superiority of the visitors, the Macao Club contestants were treated to a real test of their abilities by accomplished players from Hongkong.

The best set that Macao Club could put up was performed by junior players, Ribeiro and Rosario, who had to face the crashing drives of Choy and the keen agility of Amplanvar.

The match was a walk-over for the University, Macao losing all the sets. Scores were as follows:

W. H. Choy and S. Amplanvar beat H. Noronha and Trigo Silva 21-1, Alfred Silva and Albert Jorge 21-6, and F. Ribeiro and J. Rosario 21-13. T. T. Chin and S. L. Yong (Capt.) beat the respective Macao pairs 21-8, 21-11, and 21-5.

C. K. Cheah and M. S. Lim won by 21-7, 21-6, and 21-12.—Our Own Correspondent.

Rugby

Club "A" Beat Navy "A" In Second Half

AFTER a scoreless first half, Club "A" beat Navy "A" to 3 (a penalty goal) in a game of rugby at Happy Valley yesterday.

Poor running and passing might be said to have cost the Navy the game, for their pack was dominant throughout. They took their 3 points' lead early in the second half when Hughes scored with a penalty kick, though in the first 10 minutes of the game he had missed a similar kick from in front of the posts.

Alec Pearce gave Club their first points when he wriggled over with an opponent hanging on, and it seemed the turning point of the match for thereafter Club were all over their opponents, and further unconverted tries were scored by Bosanquet and D. Hynes.

Teams were: Club—J. M. Thompson, Bosanquet, T. A. Pearce, D. Hynes, Nedham, Charter, Clemo, Walkden, Dunnett, Olsen, Benn, G. H. Hynes, C. H. Hynes, H. Hynes. Navy—Mid. Roe, B. L. McGill, P. O. Wilson, Mid. Teare, L. A. C. Gracie, Mid. O'Brien, E. A. Wilson, L. A. C. Stockman, Burs, L. Jackson, B. L. Winter, Yeo, Mitchell, P. O. Jones, A. D. Hughes, S. D. Hagg, A. B. White.

Pony Classification

The following are the alterations and additions to the Hongkong Jockey Club pony classification lists, dated May 28, 1940:

Class 1.—Ponies.—Conniebar, Many Thanks and Sparrow to B. Class; A Great Time, Australian Prince, Double Pinasse, Gule, Despatch, Sea Jay and Wind to C. Class; and A Green Time and National Victory to D. Class.

Class 2.—Ponies.—Hoy to B. Class; Eye of Polly to C. Class; Dawn Star, Eye of Hunting, Laughing Girl, Lovely Star, Royal Wedding, Royal Service, Soldier of Britain to D. Class; Val Ying, Gold Coin, Hurricane, Minkler, National Super and Palace to E. Class.

Random Jottings

A Reply To "Umpire"

SINCE "UMPIRE" has found it necessary to comment on my Random Jottings, I again take the pleasure in using this column for his benefit.

"Umpire" seems annoyed at the facts published, and states that the Umpires Association holds no responsibility for the arrangement and accumulation of fixtures, etc. No one accuses the Association for such, but the umpires who were informed of an cancellation of a certain match should have informed the Secretary of the Umpires Association, and he could have informed the Press.

That is where my reference to co-operation comes in. If some of the umpires are not guilty of gross negligence, I should be pleased if he would clarify the following incidents which took place and do take place very week-end—since he seems to be defending the Association on his own.

December 1.—Two umpires failed to appear at a certain game. No excuse or apology has been given to the representatives of the teams concerned by the Umpires' Association (I suppose "Umpire" thinks that this is for the good of the game).

In another game on the same day one umpire was missing though during an important fixture, elsewhere five umpires were present 8th December.—In a certain fixture one umpire appeared and he consented to do the match himself. No statement has been made by the Umpires' Association yet.

15th December. One umpire failed to appear at a morning League game which, after a delay of 15 minutes, a spectator was called upon to officiate. I hear on good authority that the missing umpire was busy doing an Army game.

I COULD mention several other cases since the season commenced, but I suppose that "Umpire" would say that this was detrimental to those who are doing their best.

My point is this: since those incidents do occur there must be a lack of co-operation among the umpires and the Association. One cannot blame the Hon. Secretary as his job is not all "honey", and I know for certain that he does his best and that he is often let down by certain umpires at the last moment. I hope "Umpire" is not included among these.

Personal remarks on umpires I do pass on occasions, but I do always make it a point not to mention an official's name when he is condemned for bad umpiring.

Mr. J. T. K. Gifford came in for special comment and he deserved it. Whether he attends the umpires' meetings is no concern of mine, but I do know that he is officially nominated by the Umpires' Association and that he has been umpiring since the day of the Mamak Tournament which is not merely two years ago.

"Umpire" should not sever his connection with the Association just yet for if he does it is obvious that the public will certainly find out who he is as those officials have their names published every week-end.

In my estimation I am very doubtful whether many will join "Umpire" if he does.

Since "Umpire" has been blowing a whistle for the last two years, and I presume, he has been a reader of my notes, he ought to know who first suggested the Umpires' Association.

Older readers of this column will appreciate that I have always given the umpires every practical sympathy and support. It has been a firm rule that no adverse criticism of his qualifications shall be published but if such incidents as stated above do occur, it affects the teams that participate in the League and as such calls for attention.

The Umpires' Association and its members, good sportsmen and volunteers, take upon themselves their weekly self-imposed duties of controlling the matches, so far as present numbers allow, and I was only suggesting in my notes a week ago that these duties should be well done.

However, I am not suggesting for one moment that "Umpire" was involved in any of the incidents published, but I would remind him for the love of the game, "If the cap fits, put it on."

LEAGUE fixtures for Sunday next

Gunboats v. A.N. Other XI (Navy ground), 10.30 a.m.
5th A.A. "B" v. Police "A" (Lyemun), 11.30 a.m.
R.E. (Sookunpo), 11 a.m.
Khalisa v. 2nd M.T.B.'s (Police ground), 10 a.m.
University v. C.B.A. (Pokfulam), 4 p.m.
Punjab v. Destroyers (Marina), 4 p.m.
Signals v. Police "B" (Sookunpo), 4 p.m.



Vol. 28151.

SUGGESTIONS FOR XMAS

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HIGH KICK! JAMES CAGNEY BOOZE!

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HIGH KICK! JAMES CAGNEY BOOZE!

STOCKS UP! JAMES CAGNEY BOOZE!

HIGH KICK! JAMES CAGNEY BOOZE!

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HIGH KICK! JAMES CAGNEY BOOZE!

STOCKS UP! JAMES CAGNEY BOOZE!

HIGH KICK! JAMES CAGNEY BOOZE!

STOCKS UP! JAMES CAGNEY BOOZE!



FOUR YEARS MORE—President Roosevelt in front of voting booth at Town Hall, Hyde Park, N. Y. Mrs. Roosevelt is at left, with President's mother, Mrs. James Roosevelt. President's bodyguard, Thomas Quillters, at right. President was re-elected for four more years.

Future Relations With British Empire Speculated In U.S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (UP).—Aid to Britain "short of war" has led to United States-British relations of such cordiality as to inspire widespread unofficial speculation and comment concerning the manner and means of closer co-operation after the coming of peace, or in event of long-continued struggle.

The popularity of Mr. Winston Churchill in America, the destroyer-versus-bases deal, and the general popular feeling that the British Navy is one of the forward defenses of the Monroe Doctrine, have inspired new currents of sentiment and new lines of industrial and commercial interest, of which the political significance might become apparent only after the European war has reached a major climax.

For the first time in history, American popular preoccupation has been with the "British Empire," as distinct from Great Britain alone. This tendency followed apprehension in early months of the war that the motherland might be battered to prostration by Nazi air attack, in which event the Royal Navy or the Royal Family, or both, might establish themselves in North America.

That earlier fear was largely dissipated in recent weeks when the Royal Air Force showed amazing powers of resistance.

American interest in the British Empire was also quickened when Japan joined the Rome-Berlin Axis, as this event appeared to create greater necessity and likelihood of British-American naval co-operation in the Pacific.

Sentimental ties of the American people with Australia and New Zealand have grown notably stronger during the war period.

Trade Figures

The economic background of the American-British sympathy was strikingly illustrated by a Department of Commerce statistical report covering the first year of war, ending September 1, when the United States exports to British Empire countries were valued at \$1,740,000,000 and represented 44 per cent. of all United States exports. In August of this year, 65 per cent. of all United States exports were going to Empire countries.

The shipments to British Empire countries during the first year of the war exceeded United States exports to all countries in the acute depression years of 1932 when total exports were valued at \$1,011,000,000 and 1933, at \$1,075,000,000.

During the first year of the war, purchases by the British Empire from the United States were divided as follows: \$779,974,000 by Great Britain; \$222,583,000 by Canada; \$33,143,000 by British India; \$76,030,000 by Australia; \$84,310,000 by the Union of South Africa; and \$113,681,000 by all other British countries.

These figures compared with United States exports in the calendar year of 1939 as follows: To United Kingdom, \$505,227,000; to Canada, \$493,450,000 to British India, \$42,-

\$13,000; to Australia, \$61,554,000; and to South Africa, \$70,370,000.

Future Prospects

The trend of war-time events has suggested the prospect that commerce with British Empire countries may stabilize at between one-half and two-thirds of the United States' total trade. Since the United States is already virtually eliminated from continental European markets by blockades and self-imposed embargoes, her trading area is practically confined to Latin America, the Pacific and the Indian Ocean.

In the event that Japan's Axis connections should lead to disruption of United States commerce with Japan, this country's foreign commerce would be confined virtually to the British Empire and Latin America. Trade with the Empire would be threefold that with Latin America.

South American countries obviously have numerous complementary commercial interests with United Kingdom, and a triangular relationship of South America, Great Britain and United States was a characteristic feature of world commerce in earlier decades of relatively free commerce.

New Trend Indicated

If events of war should lead to permanent Axis domination of Europe with consequent indefinite isolation from sea-borne world commerce, experts point out that the smaller bloc of world trading powers might find it convenient to consider measures hitherto undreamed of for improvement of financial and commercial relations.

Several indications of such a trend have already been seen. First, impelled by necessity, Britain traded base sites to the United States in exchange for destroyers; the United States promptly assured other American republics of their right to use these base sites. Hence the entire transaction attained a definitely triangular aspect to the common advantage.

Secondly, the triangular economic relationship between United States, the United Kingdom, and the Latin American countries recently has been widely commented and may become the motivation of official steps. The United States desires to aid Great Britain and has credit resources with which to expand exports to the Latin Plate; Latin countries in turn

FATHER DIVINE

—Acquirement Of New "Heaven"

WHITE PLAINS, New York, Dec. 18 (UP).—Followers of Father Divine, Negro cult leader, have acquired a new "heaven" in exclusive Westchester County—about two miles from the borders of the John D. Rockefeller estate.

The property is a 69-acre estate and mansion. A deed transferring the property to 33 joint tenants, many of whom are associated with Father Divine's movement, has been filed. The estate was formerly the property of Leo S. Bing, a member of the large New York real estate firm of Bing & Bing. Purchase price was \$30,000. The property is assessed at \$170,000.

Directly opposite the property is the estate of the Duchess de Talleyrand, the former Anna Gould. The historic old Washington Irving House is about a half mile distant.

Among the joint tenants listed in the deed transfer were Nicholas Moses, Fence Love, Daniel Conquerer, Queen Elizabeth, Martha Faithful, Merry Martha, Love Patience Job, Positive Spirit, Blessed Virgin Mary, Victory Front, Radical Child and True Vocabulary.

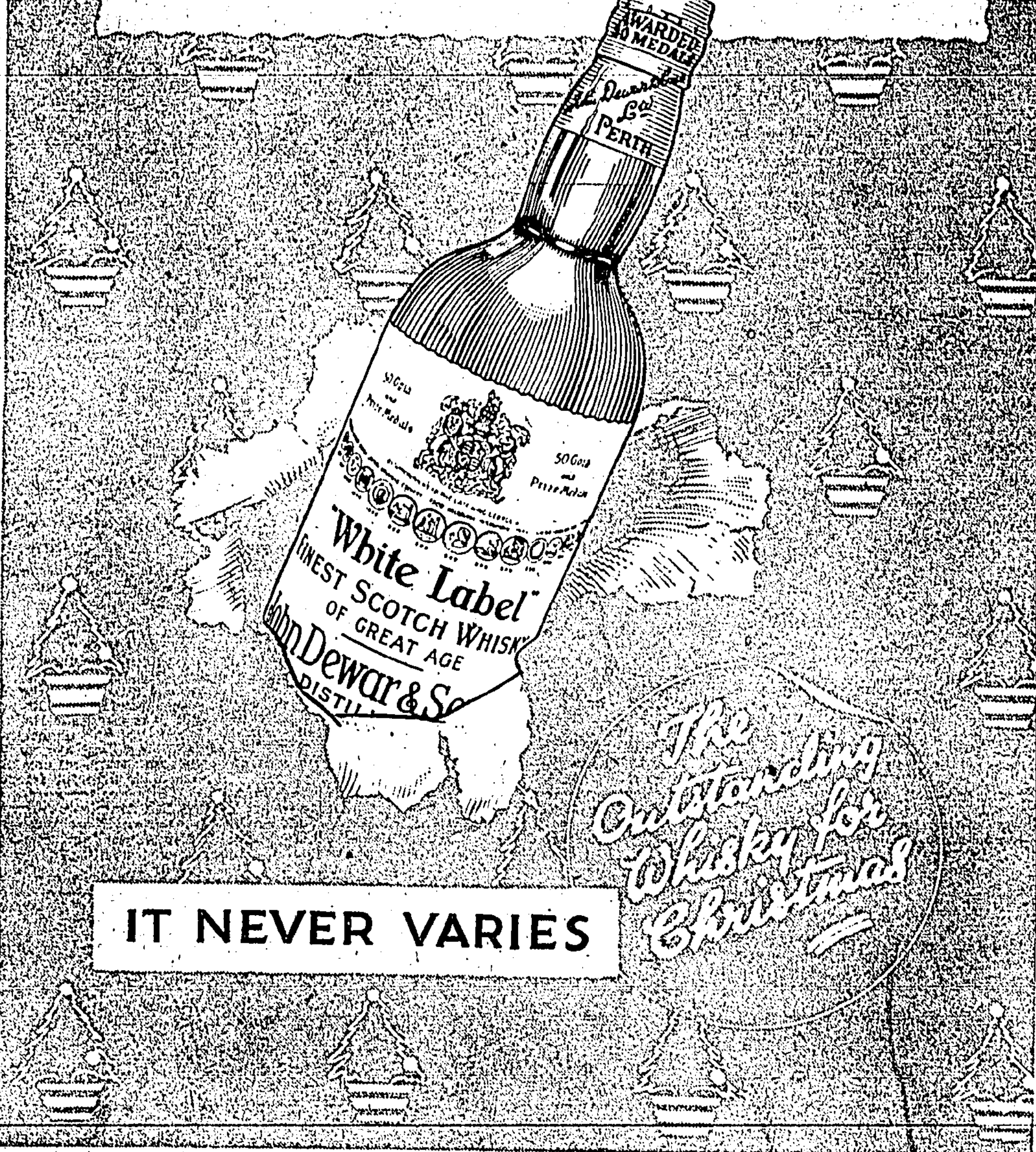
desire to maintain exports to Britain in maximum volume and are net debtors to Great Britain; the latter country in turn needs foodstuffs and raw materials but cannot maintain normal credit relations with the United States because of restrictions imposed by the Johnson Act.

Important Aspect

Normally, many countries of South America are competitors with the British Dominions in markets of the United Kingdom. The Dominions "sheltered" themselves in that market by the Ottawa agreements. Under war-time conditions all historical bases of commerce may be disrupted because of unprecedented conditions in finance and shipping.

Relations between Washington and London therefore became of increasing importance to the countries that rely on sea-borne commerce.

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KOWLOON

Nazi Troops Reported In Italian Ports

(By "Reuter's" Military Commentator)

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The report that German forces have arrived at Naples and Bari (lower Italy west and east ports), opens up some important problems, both political and military in character.

If such a move had in fact taken place, it would be a serious blow to Mussolini's personal position as well as to that of the Fascist Party. Their power would be shaken to its foundations.

Prince Umberto or the Army would take control, or German soldiers supporting the Fascist Police would temporarily bolster up Mussolini, suppressing Italian dissent with a ruthless hand. If they seize the reins, would the next move be? Would the Italians be able to get rid of the Nazi visitors?

These questions raise immense possibilities which it is too early as yet to probe.

Too Late To Save Albania

The possible effect of the arrival of German forces in Bari on the war in Albania gives further material for consideration. The presence of Germans in Bari would be unlikely to have a decisive effect on the Albanian war. Their arrival at this late date would mean that a free passage from Italy to Albania is no longer open. To aid the Italians effectively, the Germans would have to reach the front in sufficient numbers with all mechanised equipment; that now is scarcely possible for the ports of Valona and Durazzo are no longer in a fit state for the disembarkation of large forces, thanks to the heavy destructive pounding they have received from the R.A.F.

Small bodies of men in small ships might possibly slip across the Adriatic by night but they could not exercise a decisive influence on the war.

German Denial

BERLIN, Dec. 18 (UP).—Authorized quarters to-day denied foreign reports that 50,000 German troops are concentrated across the border at Bari and Naples.

1,371 Detained

LONDON, Dec. 18 (British Wire- less).—On October 31 the total number of persons detained in Britain under the Defence Regulations was 1,371.

This figure was given in a White Paper dealing with the subject which also states that during that month 33 persons were detained, all being British subjects although 10 of them were of enemy origin.

Harsh Nazi Treatment

Questions In Commons

LONDON, Dec. 18 (British Wire- less).—In the course of a question relating to exchange of British women detained by the German Government, Colonel Evans asked the Foreign Secretary to bear in mind a letter received from one of these persons dated October 1, alleging that there had been no change of clothing for five months, that they had not received any parcels or letters of any kind, that they were fed on potatoes, and that they had no occupation.

In view of these circumstances and the small number of British women involved, Colonel Evans asked if Government would take steps to see that representations were made to the proper quarter at the earliest moment.

Replying, Mr. R. A. Butler, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, said that Government realised the seriousness of the position and was aware of the difficulties existing in putting things right.

Indian's War Gifts

Minesweeping Trawler

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The Maharajah of Baroda has made a further war contribution of £50,000, according to the All-India radio.

The sum will be used for the purchase of a trawler for the Indian Navy for mine-sweeping and anti-submarine duties.

The vessel will be named Baroda. The Maharajah has already given a similar sum for fighter planes for the R.A.F.

Ikkes On Axis

NEW YORK, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Mr. Harold Ikkes, Secretary of the Interior, speaking at the Columbia University, said that the dictators proposed to cripple the United States by sabotage, propaganda and sowing suspicion between the United States and Latin America.

Exchange At A Glance

SELLING

T.T. London	1/2 1/2
Demand London	1/2 1/2
T.T. Shanghai	1/2 1/2
T.T. Singapore	1/2 1/2
T.T. Japan	1/2 1/2
T.T. India	1/2 1/2
T.T. U.S.A.	23 1/2
T.T. Manila	40 1/2
T.T. Batavia	43 1/2
T.T. Bangkok	14 1/2
T.T. Saigon	101 1/2
T.T. France	Nom.
T.T. Switzerland	90 1/2
T.T. Australia	1/0 1/2

BUYING

4 m/s L/C London	1/3 1/4
4 m/s D/P London	1/3 1/4
4 m/s L/C U.S.A.	24 1/4
4 m/s France	Nom.
30 d/s India	84 1/4
U.S. Cross rate in London	4.02 1/2
U.S. Cross rate in N.Y.	4.03 1/4

WAR WORK FOR GERMANY

In Occupied France

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The French Government has no power to control French labour in German-occupied France and there is good reason to believe that factory workers there are being forced to work for German war requirements.

This information was given to-day by Mr. R. A. Butler in the House of Commons, in reply to a question. He added that some workers may have been removed to Germany for that purpose. As far as the British Government knows, there is no conclusive evidence that factories in un-occupied France are being used for repairing German aircraft. This matter is not covered by the Franco-German armistice.

Total Of Likely Leased Arms

Aircraft, Tanks, Ships

NEW YORK, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—President Roosevelt's plan for leasing war supplies to Britain is estimated by experts as likely to involve about \$2,500,000,000 worth of aircraft, tanks, ships, etc.

This estimate is conveyed in a message from the Washington correspondent of the "New York Post" which also states that this would be additional to the \$2,000,000,000 worth of equipment already on order.

Vigorous Warning To Spain on Tangier Coup

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—The British Ambassador to Spain, Sir Samuel Hoare, is making "further vigorous representations" in "very definite" language about the recent Spanish assumption of services hitherto dependent on the international administration of Tangier.

Mr. Butler gave a categorical statement on the subject in Parliament in reply to questions as to what steps were being taken to secure the reinstatement of British personnel.

Mr. Butler recalled that following the promulgation of the law on December 1, Britain was assured that the collective and individual rights of British subjects at Tangier would be safeguarded. Further unilateral action on December 13 with "all the consequences which flow therefrom" had been vigorously taken up with the Spanish Government.

Mr. le Mander (Lib.) urged the Government carefully to reconsider the advisability of continuing the supply of food through the British view to a government which treats British subjects in this "high-handed and aggressive manner."

Mr. Butler said that he had used the words "with all the consequences flowing therefrom" to indicate the gravity with which the Government view the latest event.

Mr. O. E. Baker (Lab.) asked that if the negotiations were not successful, Government would bear in mind the fact that all which might be stopped was still being allowed to reach Spain.

Mr. Butler: "Everything will be borne in mind."

All Aid For Selassie

Revolt In Abyssinia

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Information regarding conditions in Abyssinia is difficult to obtain but a movement for revolt against the Italians appears to be making progress.

The Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. R. A. Butler, stated in reply to a question in the House of Commons that it was British policy to extend to ex-Emperor Haile Selassie as well as to elements within Abyssinia willing to bear arms against the enemy, all possible assistance in their fight for freedom.

The Pan American Airways China Clipper due at Hongkong on December 25, has been delayed and will now arrive on either the following day or December 27.

Generous War Injury Payments

Compensation Scheme

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter).—The whole adult population of the United Kingdom is covered by a scheme of compensation for injury or death due to enemy action.

The scheme which is announced by Sir Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer to-day, provides for a weekly payment varying between 35s. and 7s.

"Reuter's" Lobby correspondent says that it is claimed that no other Government or country has made such ample provisions for such cases in the present war.

Pensions will be payable in cases of long term disablement while the widow of a civilian worker whose death is due to enemy action, may receive 50s. weekly for the first ten weeks following the husband's death. The payments will begin on December 24 and will cover injuries already suffered.

Hitler's Talk To Officers

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Hitler to-day made a speech to 5,000 officer candidates for the army, air force and storm-troops, who have just been promoted to officer rank.

The text of his speech, which was delivered in the Berlin Sportsplatz, has not been published but the official news agency says that the Fuehrer gave the young soldiers the watchword for the duties which lie ahead of them as superiors in the National Socialist Army and for the adjustment of their lives.

Field Marshal von Brauchitsch, Commander-in-Chief of the German Army, spoke afterwards and pledged the Army's loyalty to Hitler.



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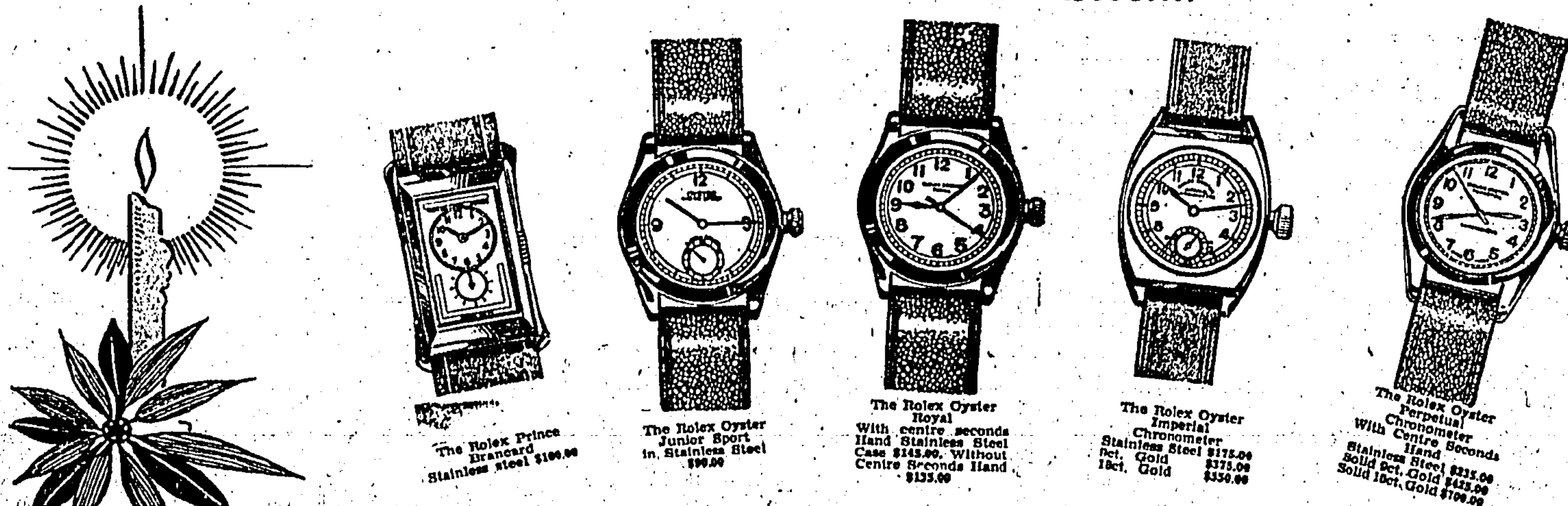
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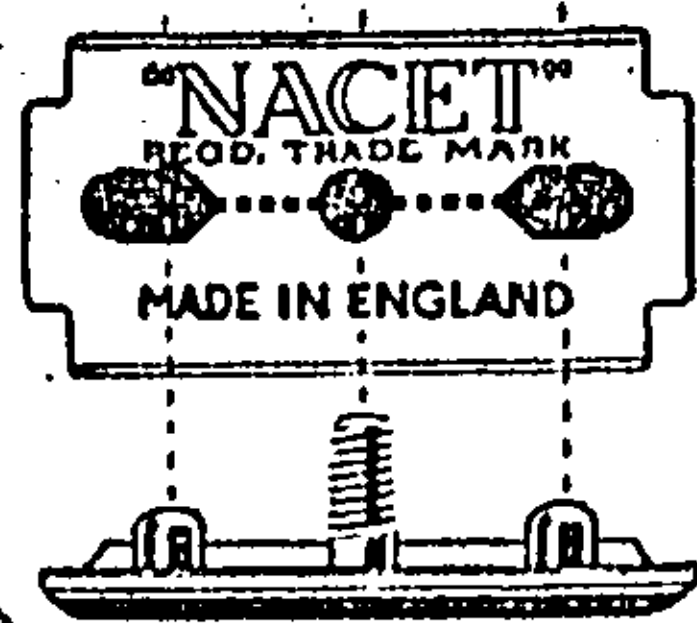
By Ernie Bushmiller



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AMBUSH IN THE WESTERN DESERT

The technique of staging successful ambushes has long been an accomplishment of the British forces fighting in the Western Desert, and this advantage has been made full use of during last week's offensive. This picture shows British Tommies setting an ambush in the Western Desert.



DARLAN'S INFLUENCE

Works Close To Petain

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"
VICHY, Dec. 18 (UP).—Special significance is attached to the presence of M. Darlan with Marshal Petain when the French President first met Herr Abetz, the German envoy.

M. Darlan's prestige is outstanding at the moment and he is still a power in French affairs. It was Darlan who refused to hand over the French fleet to any other power or to permit it to participate in other battles. The fleet has great potential value with its large cruiser strength completely intact. The fleet could be especially effective in the Atlantic and Mediterranean.

Darlan is also exceedingly close to Petain, whom he supported to the hilt in the recent Cabinet shake-up.

Japanese Press On East Asia League

TOKYO, Dec. 19 (Reuter).—In an editorial on the new East Asia league movement which was recently sponsored by Japan and which will include Manchukuo and China as its other members, the "Asahi Shimbun" stated to-day that Japan's leadership in this union should by no means be accompanied by fear of her coercion or control so long as this was a moral union.

Japan naturally sits in a position to shoulder due responsibility as guardian of East Asia. The rapid development of league movement in China would politically give a tremendous shock to Chungking, the newspaper asserted. It expressed the hope that great strides of movement were to be expected from now on, as that was part of the stipulation of the treaty between Japan and the Wang Ching-wel regime and the Japan-Manchukuo-Nanking declaration.

STOCK EXCHANGE Oil Shares Attractive

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—On the Stock Exchange to-day oil shares continued to attract interest, the outstanding feature being the rise of Anglo-Egyptians from 47s. 6d. to 52s. 6d. on good buying orders. Otherwise the markets experienced a quiet day and prices often drifted lower for want of fresh support.

Industrials were irregular and foreign bonds were neglected but the previous levels were well maintained. Indian loans hardened while Kaffirs met little Cape offering. Copper, however, were again supported. Wall Street was irregularly higher.

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Lord Willington, who heads the British Mission now visiting Uruguay, last night presented to the Uruguayan Congress Library a facsimile copy of the Magna Carta.

China War Relief

Big U. S. Contributions

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"
WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (UP).—The American Red Cross has announced that American relief to the China war victims reached \$1,000,000 to-day.

Twenty thousand vitamin bone tablets were sent by Clipper from San Francisco yesterday. Two more Clipper shipments will be made on December 24 and 31, while an additional 100,000 tablets will be shipped by the President Taft next Friday. The Red Cross office said that wheat, rice, drugs, surgical gauze and clothing to the value of \$200,000 have already reached China.

French Ambassador Takes Over Office

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"
BERLIN, Dec. 18 (UP).—The Paris correspondent of the Official German News Agency reports that General Forbet de la Laurencie at 5 o'clock this afternoon handed over the office of General Delegate of the French Government in Occupied France to the French Ambassador, M. Fernand Debrinon, who was appointed by Marshal Petain.

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No other whisky combines so rare a fragrance with such mellow smoothness; no other is quite so soft, so round, so genial. Perfect blending and slow maturing have made White Horse Whisky the equal of a fine liqueur.

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Under the distinguished patronage of
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on
BOXING DAY
at 10.30 a.m.

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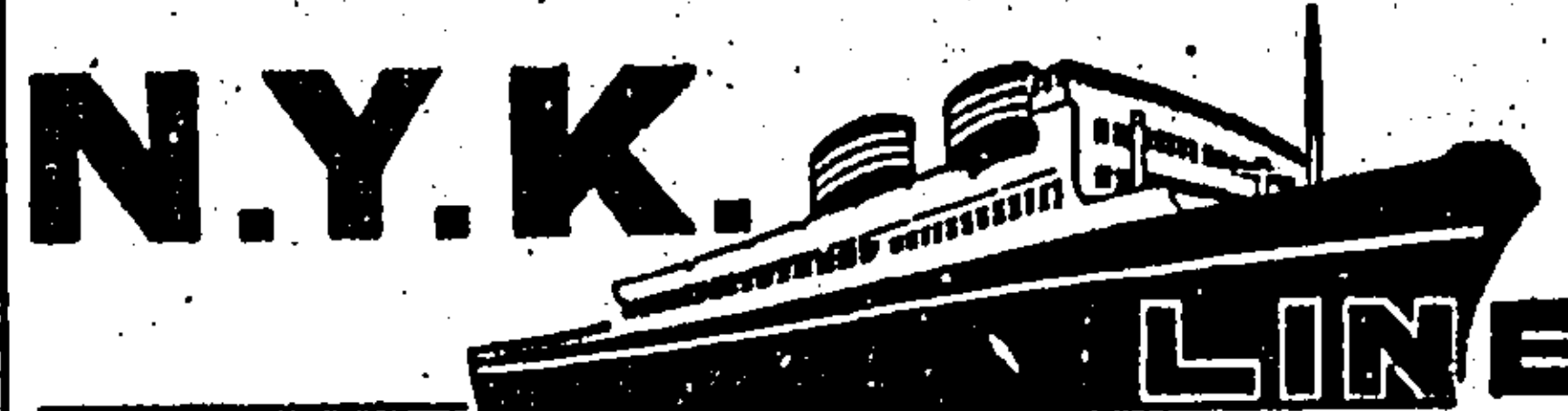
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Roll up and Help to Sock Adolf.



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Kamakura Maru	Tuesday	14th Jan.	
SEATTLE & VANCOUVER (Starts from Kobe)			
Hikawa Maru	Saturday	21st Dec.	
SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Hilo & San Francisco			
Rakuyo Maru (starts from Kobe)	Tuesday	24th Dec.	
NEW YORK via Panama			
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila.			
Atuta Maru	Monday	30th Dec.	
HAIPHONG, SAIGON & MADRAS			
Hakodato Maru	Friday	10th Jan.	
(Cargo accepted for Haiphong & Saigon)			
BOMBAY via Singapore & Colombo.			
Kasima Maru	Saturday	25th Dec.	
RANGOON & CALCUTTA via Singapore.			
Matsumoto Maru	Saturday	23th Dec.	
Kobe & YOKOHAMA			
Nitta Maru	Thursday	18th Dec.	
Kitano Maru	Tuesday	24th Dec.	
Kamakura Maru	Tuesday	14th Jan.	
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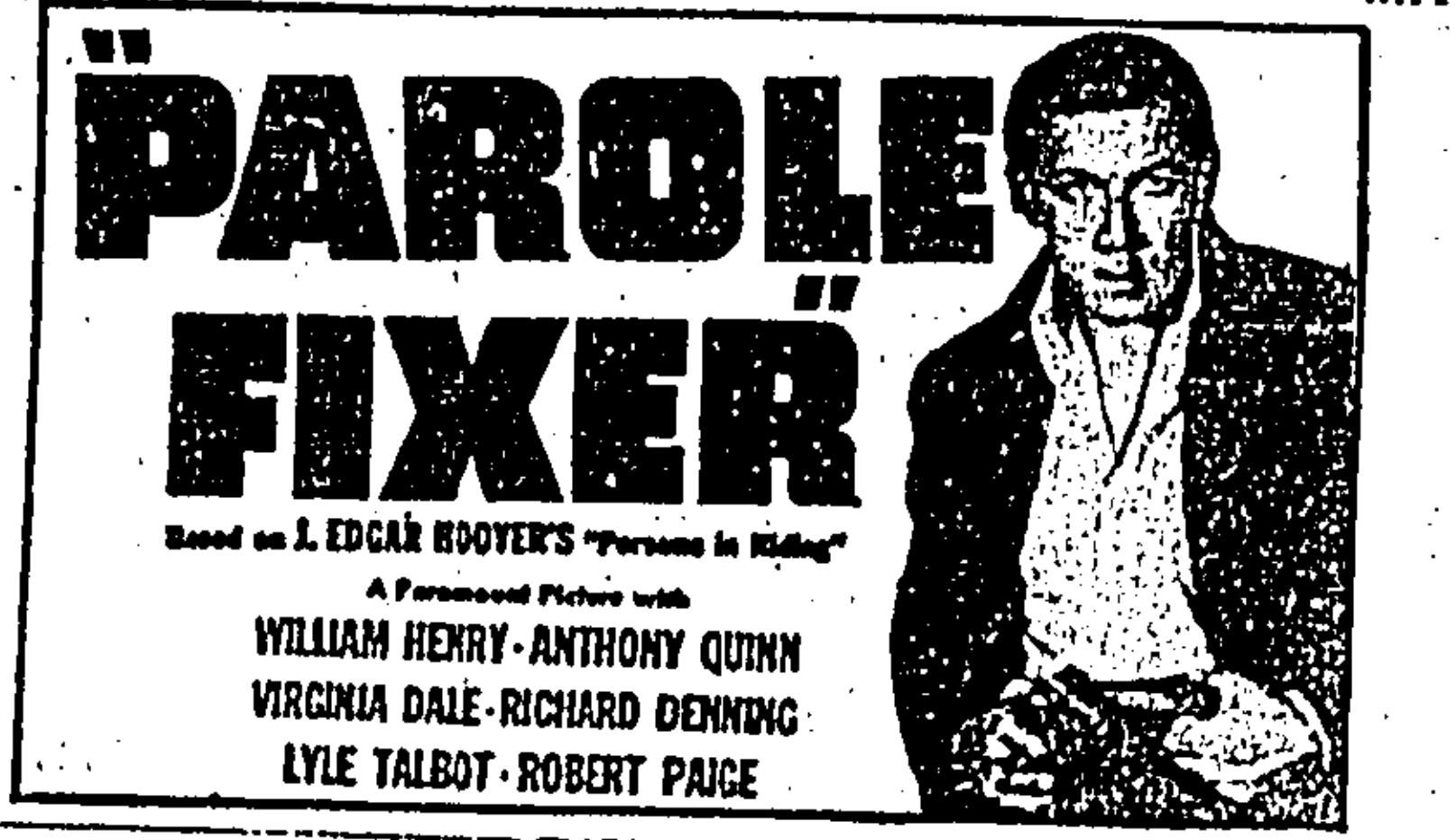
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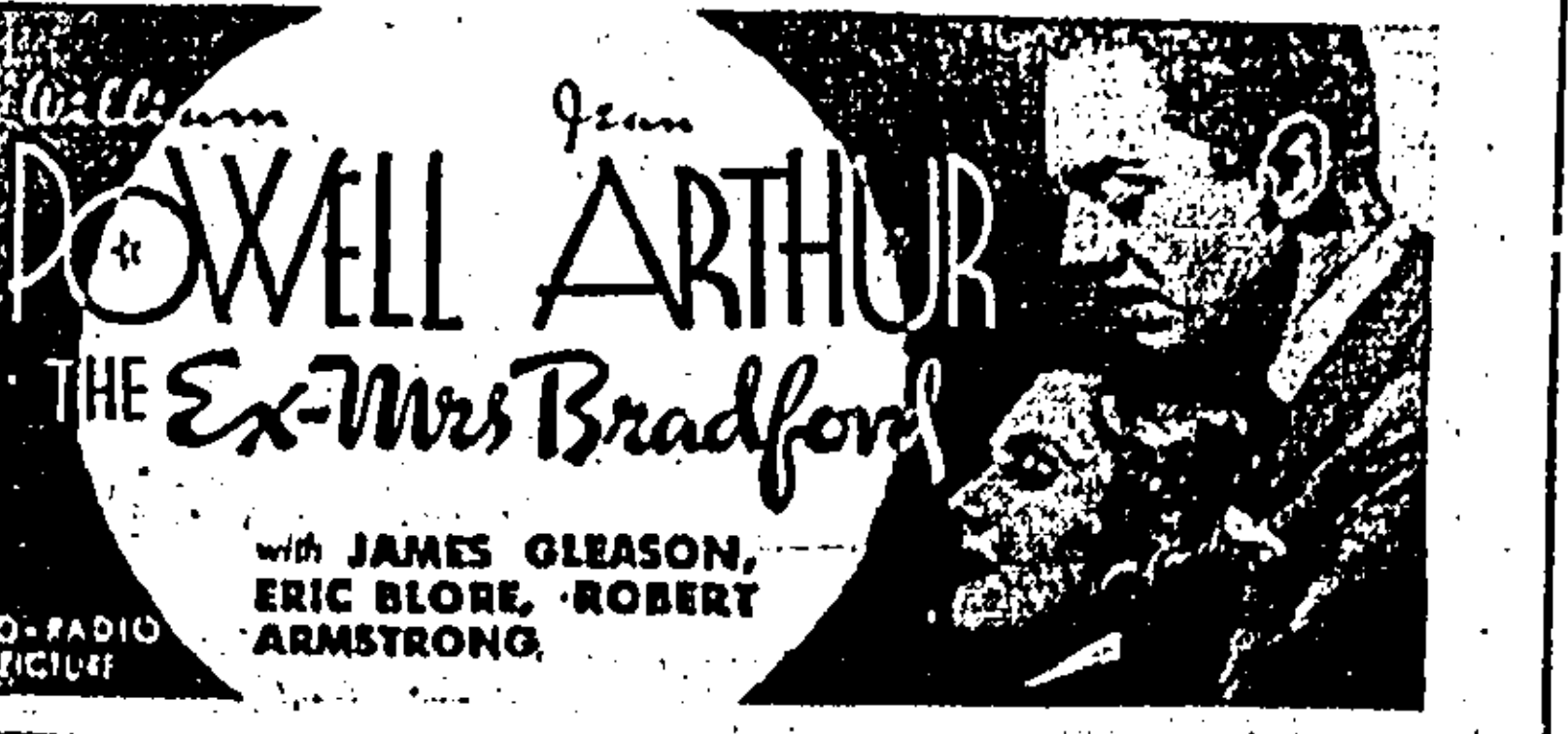
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Colony Husbands' Petition Rejected

FROM PAGE ONE

through the Colonial Secretary, Hongkong, reads as follows:

WE, the undersigned, being the duly elected members of the Evacuation Representation Committee of Hongkong representing over 500 men, whose wives, children and near relatives obeyed the original Evacuation order of Your Excellency, the Governor-in-Council, hereby petition that your Excellency may be pleased to send by cable the following petition to the Right Honourable The Secretary of State for the Colonies, as follows:

That the Evacuation Representation Committee hereby petition that the compulsory evacuation orders should be further revised so that evacuees who left the Colony of Hongkong for Australia and elsewhere owing to such evacuation order should be permitted to return to the Colony if they so desire for the following reasons:

Some Of The Causes
The original evacuation order caused grave dissatisfaction, indignation and unrest. There were many contributory causes, some of the principal being:

First, that the requisite steps were not taken to prepare for any emergency between the time when the original scheme was worked out on behalf of the Government in 1939 and the date of the Evacuation Order on June 28, 1940.

Secondly, such evacuation entailed a blundering and unjust racial discrimination amongst British citizens of Hongkong.

Thirdly, owing to the manner in which the Government of the Colony operated such order, exemption was granted to many who had no right to it and many justifiably entitled to such exemption, were unable to obtain it.

This dissatisfaction, indignation and unrest were increased in the minds of the law-abiding citizens of this Colony by the Hongkong Government's subsequent notification appearing in the Press on November 7 and 8; for this new order penalised those who were obedient to the original Order and left, and condoned the disobedience of those who ignored the original order and remained.

Financial Assistance
Your petitioners therefore humbly request that the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies will give the necessary directions to the local Government by which all those evacuees who desire to return to the Colony may be permitted to do so.

Further, that the necessary financial assistance by way of free passage may be provided without delay and that, if the necessary financial arrangements cannot be made forthwith, those who are able in the first place to advance the expense of a return passage may do so without prejudice to their right to recover such financial assistance and when the necessary scheme can be arranged. Also that permission should be given for the return to the Colony, at their own expense, of any who may have been absent from the Colony on leave or otherwise when the evacuation order was made.

Further that those who acting on the advice of the local Government remain away, may have the same financial arrangements made for them as were made when evacuation was compulsory and be given an undertaking that Government will keep the situation constantly under review to enable such persons to return immediately Government consider that their absence from the Colony is no longer to be recommended and will be granted the same facilities and financial assistance to return.

Willing To Take Risk
Your Petitioners and those whom they represent fully recognise that if evacuees or other female relatives are allowed to return, immediately, they do so at their own risk and cannot expect again to be evacuated at Government's expense.

Your Petitioners, as loyal citizens, are fully aware of the gravity of the political situation and the necessity of urging people to evacuate. Nevertheless they have fully weighed the consequences of the present compulsory order and are convinced that the confidence of the Colony will only be restored by a scheme which is both equitable and voluntary.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly

Chicago Bids To Oust Hollywood

CHICAGO, Dec. 18 (UP).—Mayor Edward J. Kelly has offered movie producer Cecil B. DeMille a 21-acre tract of city land "to re-establish Chicago as America's film capital."

Kelly said he would discuss the proposition with DeMille, who will arrive here shortly for the premiere of his film "North-west Mounted Police."

"Chicago was the birth-place of the movie industry," Kelly said in announcing the offer. In 1907 the Essanay Co. produced here the first large-scale motion picture, and launched the film careers of Charlie Chaplin, Ben Turpin, Gloria Swanson and others.

The exodus began, Kelly said, when DeMille, disappointed with the scene conditions at Flagstaff, Arizona, "rode to the end of the railroad line—Hollywood."

Mexico To Improve Air Fields

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 18 (UP).—Mexico's 1941 budget will include a 10,000,000 peso appropriation to reconstruct and improve 250 air fields, the newspaper "Ultimas Noticias" says.

The newspaper says the government desires gradual development of Mexico's commercial airlines network.

Some observers believe that the budget announcement was the result of plans by the Pan American Airways to establish a route from Los Angeles to Mexico City. The New Pan American route has been tentatively approved and awaits final action by the Civil Aeronautics Authority in Washington.

Ten-Ton Tanks By Air

The Germans are claiming to have devised means for transporting ten-ton tanks by air.

This information does not perturb the War Office. These tanks are only small and are scarcely bullet-proof.

Our own research in this direction is well advanced. The Italians are using tanks for their advance into Egypt, but here their machines are at a disadvantage. These tanks were designed for mountain warfare in Abyssinia, and have great gripping power on the surface. This gripping power was an advantage over the hard, rocky ground of Abyssinia, but on the smooth sand of the Egyptian desert it is a drawback.

prayer that your Excellency may see fit to forward the above Petition to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State by cable, with the request that the Right Honourable the Secretary of State may accede to your Petitioners' prayer.

Dated November 2, 1940.
J. L. Wilson (Dean of St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong); Chas S. Terry (The Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co. Ltd.); A. C. Jeffreys (Hongkong Telephone Co. Ltd.); F. F. Duckworth (Hongkong Electric Co. Ltd.); J. F. Galvin (Police Department); J. F. MacGregor (Caldwell MacGregor & Co. Ltd.); J. R. Higgs (Vicar of St. Andrews Church, Kowloon); F. C. Clemon (China Light & Power Co., Kowloon); and S. Simpson (The Tulkoo Duckyard & Engineering Co. (of H.K.) Ltd.).

Meeting On December 27
The Evacuation Representation Committee will convene a meeting on December 27, at 6 p.m., in the Rose Room of the Peninsula Hotel. All interested are invited to attend. The Committee will, at the meeting, explain the situation as it exists and a discussion will take place, as to what future action should be taken.

LATE NEWS

Japanese Parley

SHANGHAI, Dec. 19 (UP).—There is a heavy concentration of Japanese warships in Shanghai, bringing ranking Admirals and other high Naval officers from North China in conference with the Central China Command.

Diplomatic circles here understand that the conference is mainly concerned over Ambassador Nomura's impending visit to China, prior to his sailing to Washington.

Probably the main issue is the reopening of the Yangtze, whereupon it is understood that Ambassador Nomura wants definite promises.

It is recalled that yesterday was the first anniversary of Japan's promise to reopen the Yangtze "soon"—the promise was made when Admiral Nomura was the Japanese Foreign Minister.

However, American businessmen said that the river at present is closed tighter than ever.

The Japanese Admirals are also discussing the proposal to withdraw landing parties from some sections on the China coast, including Amoy, where disease has taken a heavy toll. Naval officers pointed out that as far as the blockade is concerned, Japanese destroyers could enforce it without aid of the landing parties.

N.E.I. And British Commerce

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH" SINGAPORE, Dec. 18 (Dome).—Indicating Britain's strenuous efforts to co-ordinate colonial production under a vast scheme, Sir Shenton Thomas, the Governor of the Straits Settlements, has been authorized to undertake direct discussion with the Netherlands East Indies authorities for closer commercial relations.

Mr. J. H. Ritman, chief of publicity of the Netherlands East Indies Government, who has been here since December 15 for negotiations, in a statement this afternoon said: "Negotiation for closer Anglo-Dutch trade co-operation will take place soon and problems regarding the monetary system, exchange, and customs will firstly be discussed."

Chinese Destroy Transport Trains

SHANGHAI, Dec. 18 (Reuter).—Two Japanese military transport trains on the Tientsin-Puchow railway were wrecked as a result of a raid by a squadron of Chinese planes at dawn on December 16, according to an official announcement in Chungking yesterday, says the "Sin Wan Pao".

The Chinese planes took off from bases in Shensi and dropped many bombs along the railway line. Incendiaries were also dropped on Japanese bases in the Anyi and Yangcheng areas in south Shensi, resulting in fires to military stores and aerodromes.

All the Chinese planes returned safely to their bases, the paper concludes.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE

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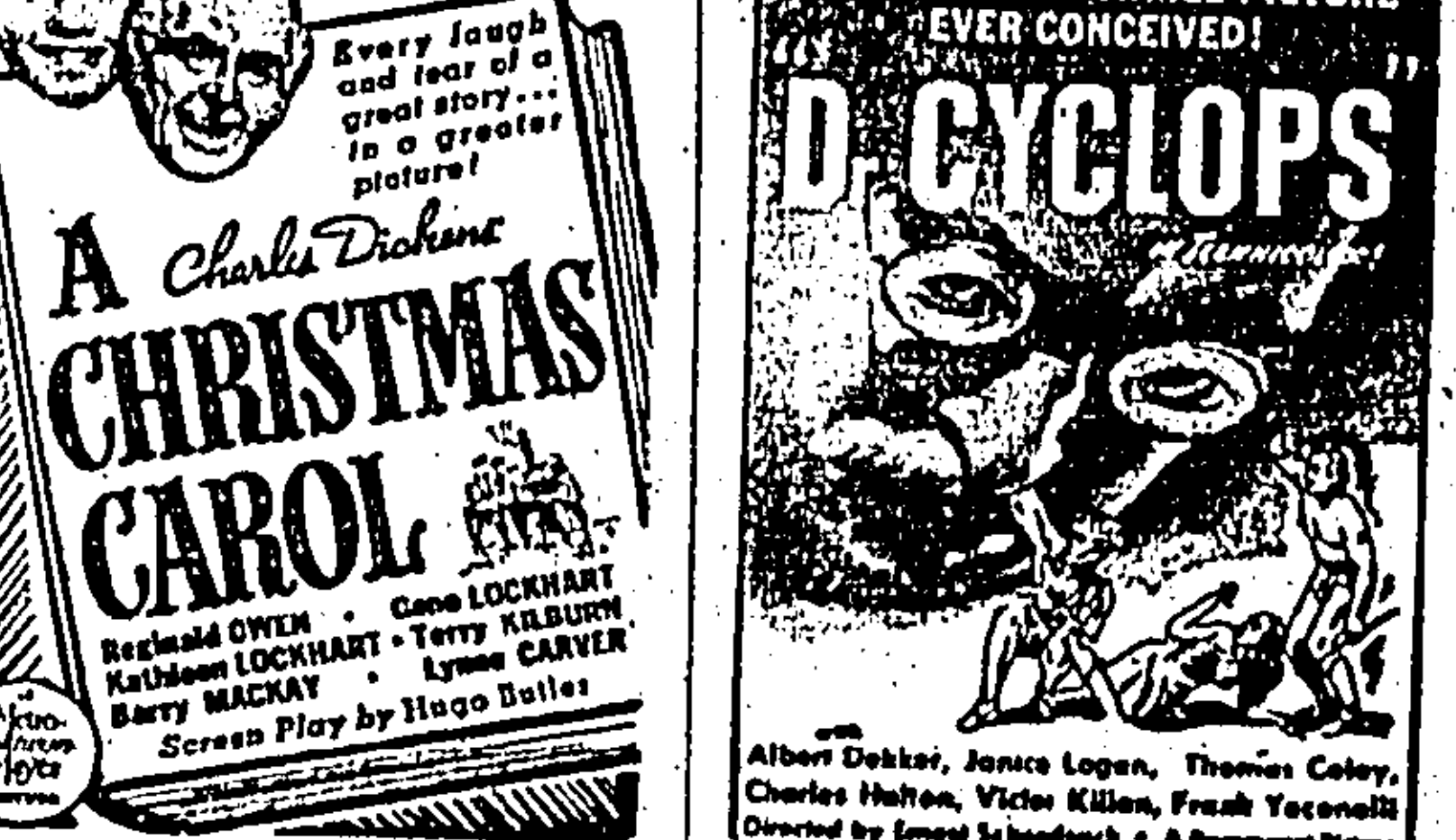
To-day & To-morrow



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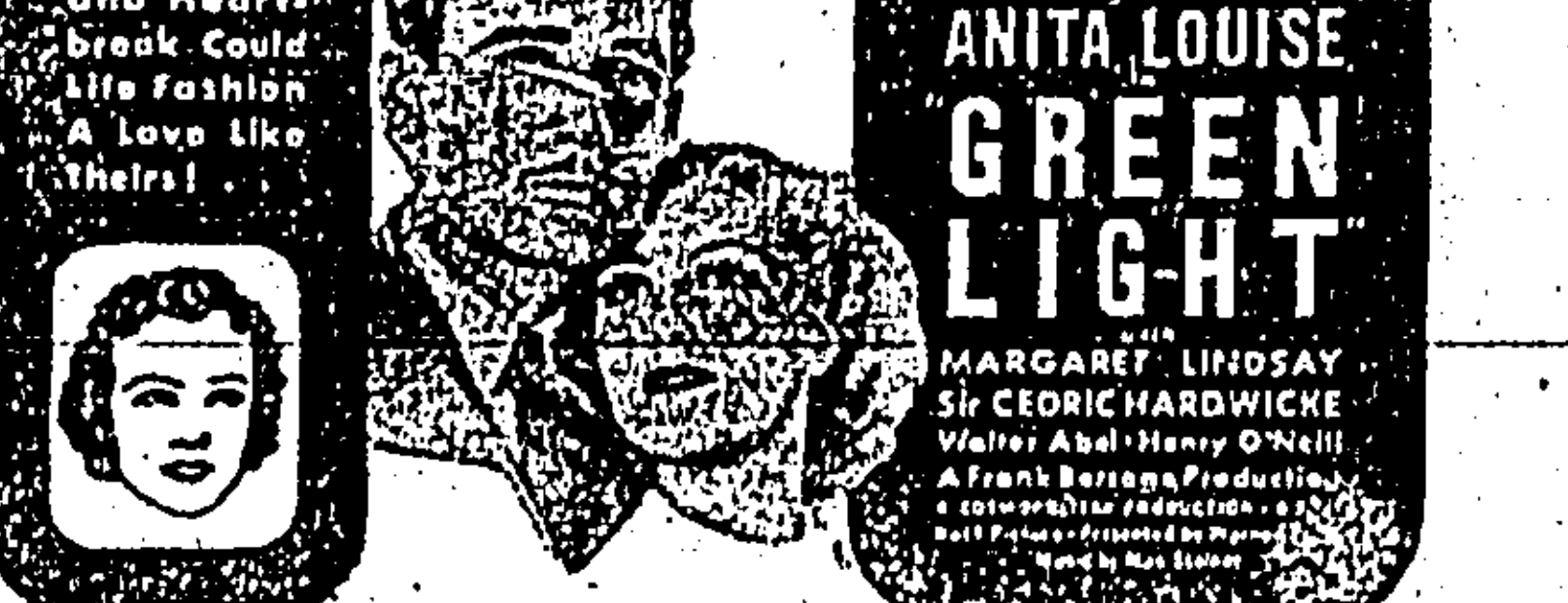
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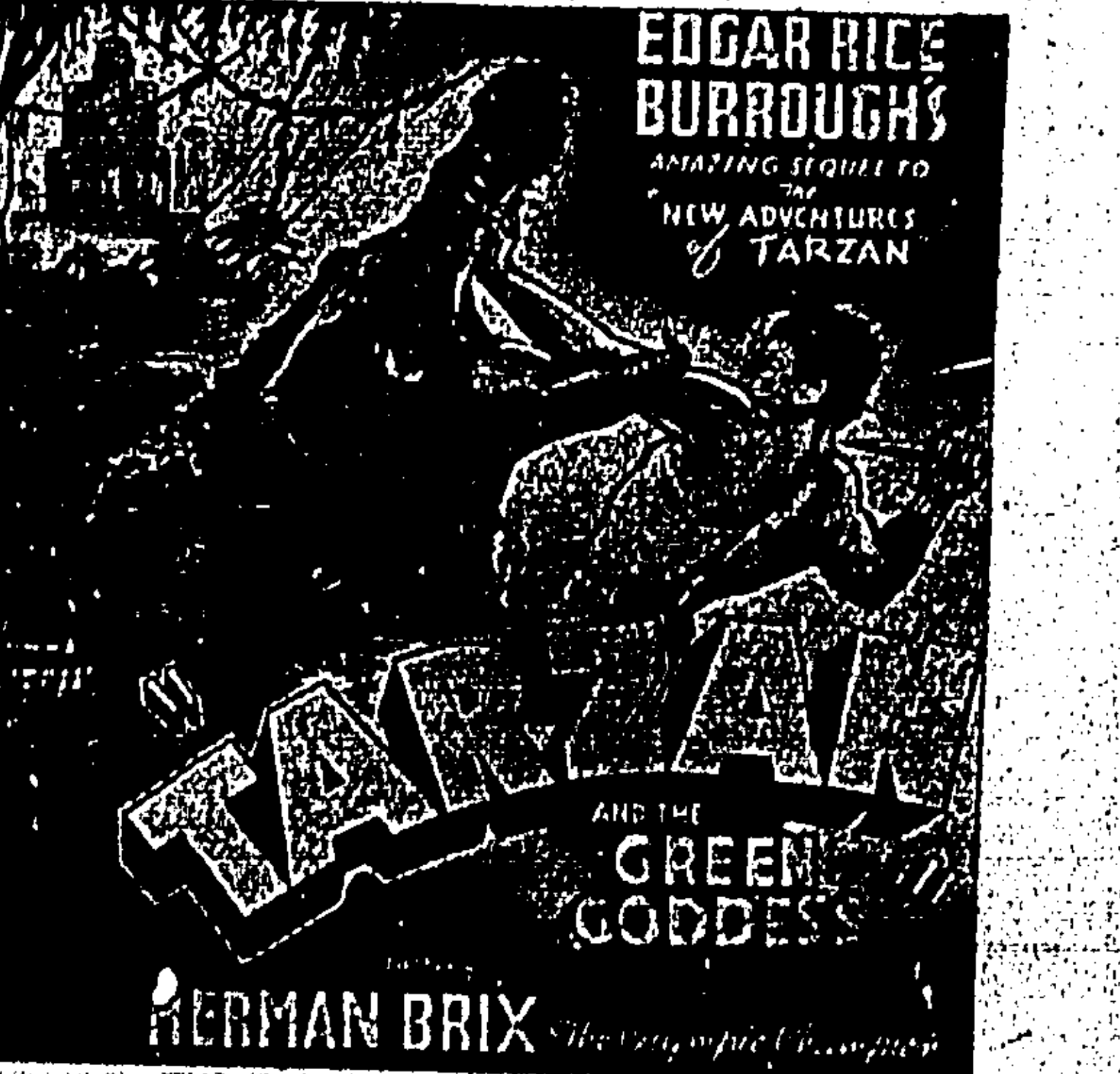
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